



manjaro
user guide

MANJARO LINUX

USER GUIDE

THE MANJARO DEVELOPMENT TEAM

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The source code for this documentation can be downloaded from:

<https://github.com/manjaro/manjaro-user-guide/>



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The awesome community on forum.manjaro.org and [#manjaro](#)

A note about Manjaro and Arch

Manjaro is based on another distribution called Arch Linux. As such, it is also able to draw software packages from the community-maintained Arch User Repository (AUR). However, please note that Manjaro is not Arch, and any enquiries about the Manjaro operating system should be directed towards the Manjaro forums and Internet Relay Chat (IRC) channels alone. For example, although Ubuntu is derived from Debian - and therefore shares some similarities with its parent - there are still substantial differences between these operating systems and how they work. Such is the case with Manjaro, which is far from just being an “easy to install” or “pre-configured” Arch operating system. Here are some of the key differences between the Manjaro and Arch operating systems:

- Manjaro is developed independently from Arch, and by a completely different team.
- Manjaro is designed to be accessible to newcomers, while Arch is aimed at experienced users.
- Manjaro draws software from its own independent repositories. These repositories also contain software packages not provided by Arch.
- Manjaro provides its own distribution-specific tools such as the Manjaro Hardware Detection (MHWD) utility, and the Manjaro Settings Manager (MSM).
- Manjaro has numerous subtle differences in how it works when compared to Arch.

To reiterate, although Manjaro is indeed an Arch-derivative, it is not Arch!

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Introduction

About Manjaro

Manjaro is a user-friendly **GNU/Linux** distribution based on the independently developed **Arch Linux**. Within the Linux community, Arch itself is renowned for being an exceptionally fast, powerful, and lightweight distribution that provides access to the very latest cutting-edge software. However, Arch is also traditionally aimed at more experienced or technically-minded users. As such, it is generally considered to be beyond the reach of many, especially those who lack the technical expertise (or persistence) required to use it.

Developed by a worldwide team, Manjaro aims to provide all of the benefits of Arch Linux combined with a focus on user-friendliness and accessibility. Available in both 32- and 64-bit versions, Manjaro is suitable for newcomers as well as experienced Linux users. For newcomers, a user-friendly installer is provided, and the system itself is designed to work fully “straight out of the box” with features including:

- Pre-installed desktop environments
- Pre-installed graphical applications to easily install software and update your system
- Pre-installed codecs to play multimedia files
- Pre-installed access to the latest games

Features

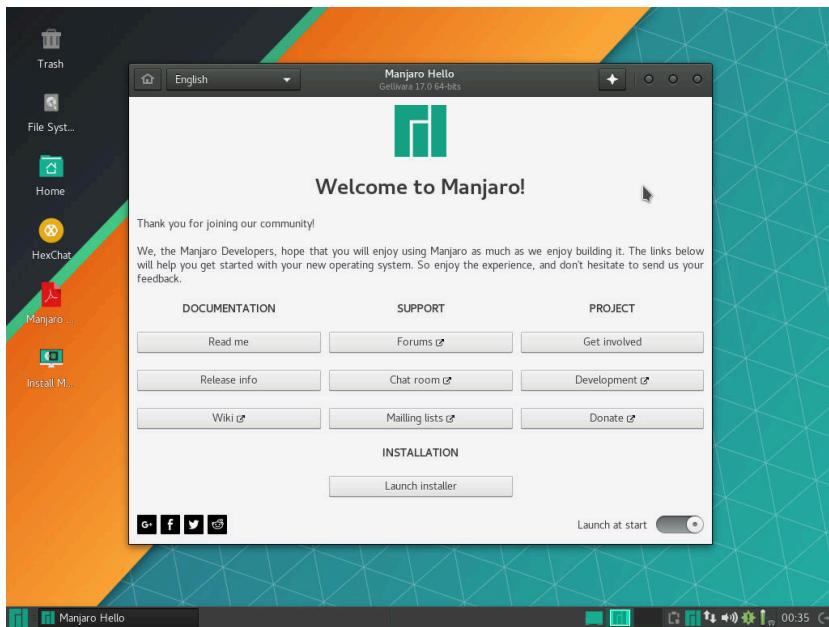
Manjaro shares many of the same features as Arch, including:

- Speed, power, and efficiency
- Access to the very latest cutting- and bleeding-edge software
- A “rolling release” development model that provides the most up-to-date system possible without the need to regularly install a new operating system release

- Access to the Arch User Repositories
- The versatility to be shaped and moulded in every respect to suit personal taste and preference.

However, Manjaro boasts a few extra features of its own, including:

- A simplified, user-friendly installation process
- Automatic detection of your computer's hardware (e.g. graphics cards)
- Automatic installation of the necessary software (e.g. graphics drivers) for your system
- Dedicated software repositories that deliver fully tested and stable software packages
- Support for the easy installation and use of multiple kernels



1: Welcome to Manjaro!

Part I

Getting Manjaro

Downloading Manjaro

Manjaro editions

There are three official editions of Manjaro available for download, as well as a number of unofficial “community” editions. They come complete with a pre-installed desktop environment and a selection of popular software applications, and either of these would be a great choice for anyone who wants to try out Manjaro on a Live-CD without having to install it first. If you have the time it’s worth taking each for a test run to see which you like best!

Xfce The Xfce desktop environment is designed to be lightweight while retaining a familiar desktop interface. If you’re not sure which edition to choose, this one is a good bet. Xfce edition disc image files start with **manjaro-xfce**.

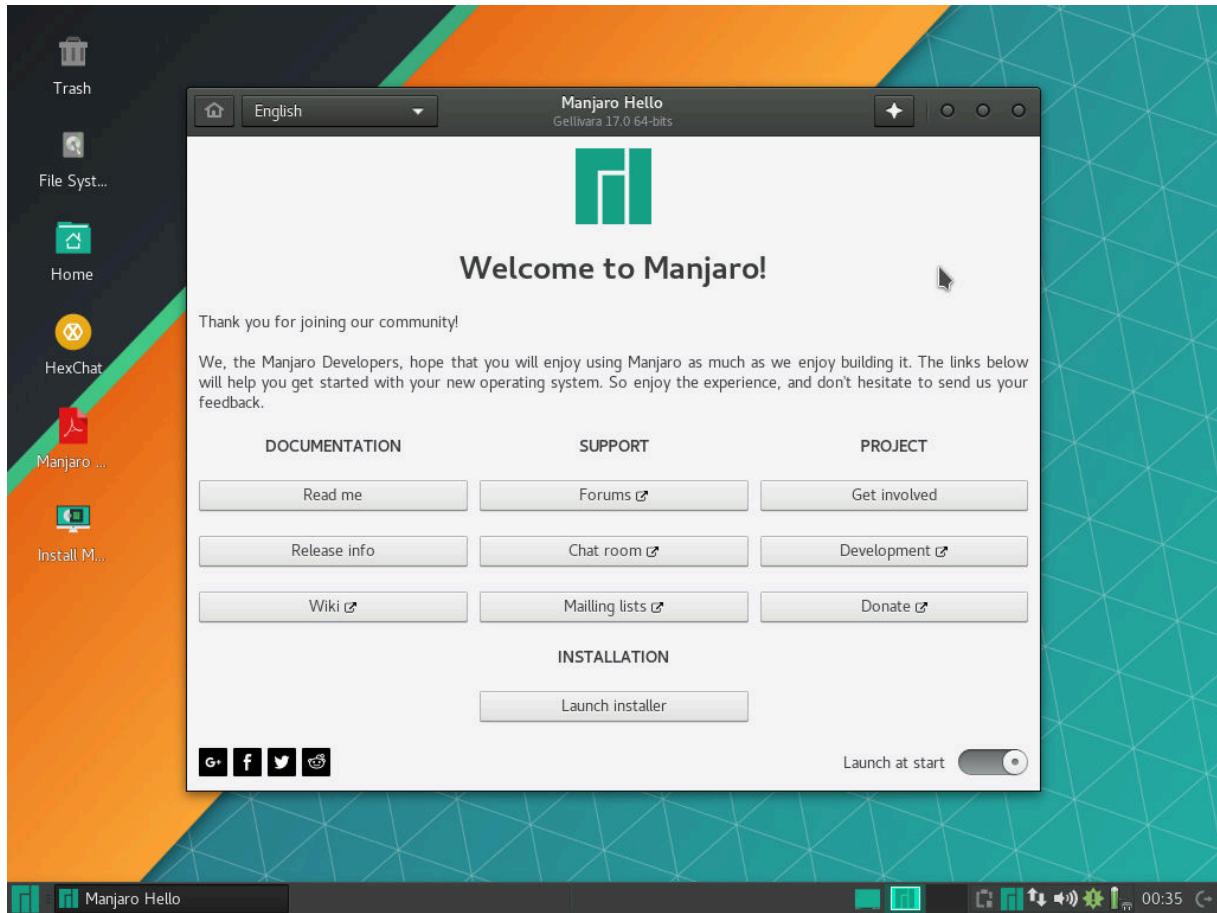
KDE This version includes the K Desktop Environment. It offers a highly integrated environment with plenty of functionality and options. It is also highly customizable and offers a slightly different feel than the other editions. KDE edition disc image files start with **manjaro-kde**.

GNOME This edition of Manjaro includes the GNOME desktop, which is part of the GNU project. It offers an unconventional but intuitive desktop aiming to help productivity. It comes with a very complete and aesthetically coherent set of applications to fill the most common needs. GNOME edition disc image files start with **manjaro-gnome**.

Each edition of Manjaro is available as 32- and 64-bit versions. Disc images available for 32-bit systems will end in **i686.iso** and images for 64-bit systems will end in **x86_64.iso**. A 64-bit operating system won’t run on a 32-bit system, and although a 32-bit operating system will run on a 64-bit system it won’t be able to make full use of its resources. Try to make sure that you download the appropriate disc image for your system!

To download Manjaro go to this web address:<https://manjaro.org/get-manjaro/>

When you purchase retail software it generally comes on a disc, whether a CD or a DVD. A ‘Live-CD’ has a version of the operating system that will run without needing to be installed. This is a feature of most GNU/Linux and BSD-based operating systems.



KDE edition

GNOME edition

Manjaro community editions

In addition to the three main Manjaro editions, there are a number of editions that have certain software or desktop environments pre-installed. This user manual assumes you are using the Xfce version, and all screenshots will be from this. However, the installation process and other software works in exactly the same way!

The edition names should give a clear indication of the desktop environment (or window manager) they install. Unless you have a strong preference, we suggest you stick with the Xfce version. You can of course change later, or install other desktop environments too!

There are many community editions to choose from, including: Cinnamon, Lxqt, i3, Deepin, Budgie, MATE, Enlightenment, JWM and many others! The complete list is available at <https://sourceforge.net/projects/manjarolinux-community/files/>.

Downloading a disc image

Every release of Manjaro is available for download, whether the current stable release, upcoming test builds, or previous versions for historical interest. When you visit the download page you will find a link to each of the three main editions in both 32- and 64-bit versions, as well as a checksum file for each. A checksum can be used to check the integrity of the disc image file you download to make sure it hasn't been corrupted during the download. This will be covered in the next chapter.

Stable releases of Manjaro are intended to be used by the general public, so this will be the appropriate choice for the majority of users. The current Manjaro release can always be downloaded from the Get Manjaro page.¹

Other stable releases, starting from 16.06.1, can also be downloaded from the Stable Release section of the Sourceforge website.²

Development releases of Manjaro give you a glimpse of what is to come soon in the stable release. Do keep in mind that it is not as solid as the stable release and should not be used on a production machine. It is mainly intended for testing purposes. The latest development release available can be downloaded from the Manjaro Preview Releases page.³

Test builds of Manjaro are intended to be used by developers and testers to identify any bugs or issues during the development process. **These are not suitable for use as a main operating system by the general public.** However, should you wish to try out a

¹ <https://manjaro.org/get-manjaro/>

² <https://sourceforge.net/projects/manjarolinux/files/release/>

³ <https://manjaro.org/manjaro-preview-releases/>

test build (preferably in a virtual machine), each current release can be downloaded from the Test Build section of the Sourceforge website.⁴

⁴ <https://sourceforge.net/projects/manjarodev/files/testbuild/>

Checking a downloaded disc image for errors

Before burning your downloaded disc image (or using it as a virtual disc in VirtualBox⁵) we strongly recommend that you first check that it hasn't been corrupted. The potential result of not checking first, especially if you want to install Manjaro as your main operating system, should be obvious. In the best case, the installation will fail. In the worst case a corrupted image will result in a corrupted installation.

⁵ <https://www.virtualbox.org/>

To verify the integrity of the disc image you have to download the appropriate checksum file. This will be available at the same place where you downloaded the disc image file. For example, the file **manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso.sha1** contains the SHA-1 checksum hash for the Xfce disc image and will have content similar to this:

```
360d69fe4fac31ee91fb1e7d7ad4c03321e1ebf1 manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso
```

SHA-1

SHA and others like MD5 are different types of hashing algorithms; the "sha" part of the checksum file name stands for **Secure Hash Algorithm**. These algorithms are used to generate a hash code unique to the disc image file. The checksum file itself is just a text document that contains hash codes that should match the code generated by the MD5 or SHA algorithms. Copies of the file can be checked to make sure they are exactly the same - if the file is changed in any way, either intentionally or by corruption, the code generated will be different.

Whilst MD5 is commonly used, SHA-1 and SHA-256 are newer and more secure and are beginning to replace MD5. For the purpose of checking the integrity of the downloaded file MD5 is "good enough" but SHA-1 is a better solution. The checking process is the same for both algorithms. For more about hashing algorithms Wikipedia has lots of information.⁶

⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secure_Hash_Algorithm

If the code generated from the disc image matches that contained in the checksum file, then the disc image file is fine. If the two codes don't match then it means that the disc image file has changed in some way, most likely due to being corrupted. You can think of it like someone using a password to identify who they are: if they provide the wrong password, then something is probably wrong.

From this point on we'll assume you are using the file **manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso.sha1**.

Checking in Linux

Automatic verification

The program `sha1sum` can automatically compare the checksum of the disc image you downloaded against the value in the text file. The process should be very straightforward!

For this example, I first open a terminal and change to the directory where I downloaded the disc image file and checksum file. I use the command `ls` to check which files are present:

```
jonathon@box:~$ cd download
jonathon@box:~/download$ ls
manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso.sha1  manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso
```

As you can see I have downloaded the 64-bit Xfce edition. Next, I run the `sha1sum` program to check against the value in the checksum file:

```
jonathon@box:~/download$ sha1sum -c manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso.sha1
```

The line below shows the result of the checks. In this case, it shows that `sha1sum` has successfully verified the disc image I downloaded against the checksum value in the file.

```
manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso: OK
```

If it failed, I'd need to download the image again...

Manual verification

To manually check the integrity of your downloaded file, first open the downloaded **manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso.sha1** checksum file using a text editor such as Gedit. Once the checksum file has been opened, and the code is visible, open up your terminal and change to the directory where your downloaded disc image is stored.

For example, if your disc image file is located in a directory named `download`, you would first change to that directory:

```
jonathon@box:~$ cd download
```

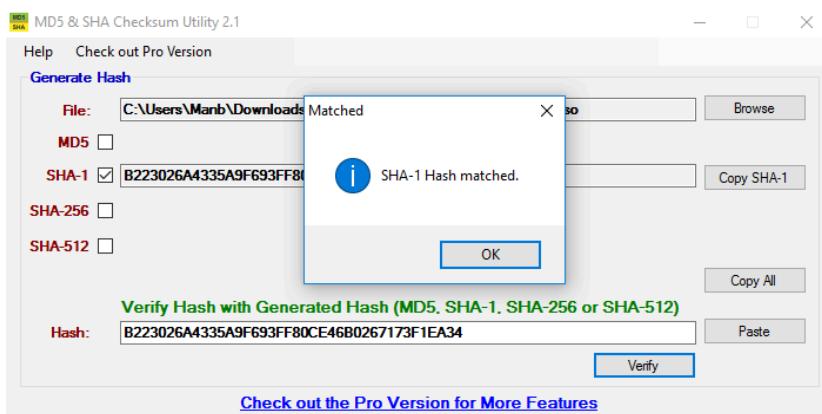
Then you can generate an SHA-1 hash code for the disc image using:

```
jonathon@box:~/download$ sha1sum manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso
```

This command generates a hash code for the 64-bit Manjaro Xfce disc image which can then be manually compared to the code contained in the checksum file.

Checking in Microsoft Windows

Unlike Linux, Microsoft Windows does not have any suitable built-in tools so you will need to download and install a checksum utility application. A web search will turn up several examples of free software, or you can look on the **Download.com** website.⁷ Another free checksum utility which has positive reviews is **Raymond's MD5 & SHA Checksum Utility**.⁸ This is the program we will use in the following example.



Once you have downloaded the checksum utility, the checking process is very straightforward. Simply **Browse** to the downloaded disc image, select it, and click **Open**. The program will then calculate the checksums for the disc image file. To verify if the checksum is correct, open the **manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso.sha1** file in a text editor such as Notepad, copy the checksum for the disc image file you have downloaded, and paste it into the **Hash** verification box. Then click **Verify**. If there are no problems with the disc image file the program will inform you that the hash matched.

⁷ <http://download.cnet.com/>

⁸ <https://raylin.wordpress.com/downloads/md5-sha-1-checksum-utility/>

1: Verifying the checksum in Microsoft Windows using Raymond's MD5 & SHA Checksum Utility.

To speed up the process it's probably a good idea to deselect the hashes you are not verifying.

Writing a disc image

A disc image is not a copy-and-paste duplication of files: it's a bit-for-bit copy of the raw data that makes up the files and folders of that disc. This is why just copying a disc image file to a disc (or USB flash drive) to begin installing won't work: you'll need to use a disc burning or image writing application to translate that raw data into the files and folders.

Once converted, the files can be used to run Manjaro in Live-CD mode without having to install it to your system, and/or install Manjaro on your system. It's important to note Manjaro will not have full functionality when run in Live-CD mode. For example, you will not be able to save any changes to the system.

Due to the amount of software included on the full edition disc images you may need to use a DVD instead of a CD. Check the following table as a guide if you're not sure:

Edition	Filename	Size	Media
KDE	manjaro-kde-17.0-stable-i686.iso	2.0 GB	DVD
	manjaro-kde-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso	2.1 GB	
Xfce	manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-i686.iso	1.4 GB	DVD
	manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso	1.5 GB	
Net	manjaro-net-16.08-stable-i686.iso	630 MB	CD
	manjaro-net-16.08-stable-x86_64.iso	670 MB	

Many people routinely use a DVD rather than a CD even for the smallest disc image files. Not only is a DVD faster to burn but they allow higher data access rates so the Live-CD loads faster and the installation completes sooner.

However, with the increasing capacity and decreasing cost of USB flash media this presents an even more attractive method than the traditional burning process; it is far faster and more flexible than using optical media. Both CD/DVD burning and USB flash media installation methods are covered in this guide.

There is an exception to this rule. If you intend on installing Manjaro in a virtual machine environment using Oracle's VirtualBox, then there will be no need to burn the image as VirtualBox will be able to read from the disc image file directly as a virtual disc.

Table 1: Manjaro Edition disc image file sizes

If your system will boot from a USB device, and you have one of sufficient capacity that you can erase, we recommend the use of a USB flash drive over traditional CD/DVD media.

Burning to a CD/DVD in Linux

If not already installed, several different software burning applications should be available for installation from your distribution's Software Center / Software Manager / Package Manager / repositories. Popular burners include **XFBurn**, **K3b**, and **Brasero**. Which one you choose is entirely down to personal choice, though your operating system will usually install one suitable for your desktop environment. To simplify things a little, the following steps for burning your downloaded Manjaro disc image use Brasero.

Burning using Brasero

1. Insert a blank CD/DVD.
2. Start the **Brasero** software burner.
3. Click the **Burn Image - Burn an existing CD/DVD image to disc** button to open the **Image Burning Setup** window.
4. Click the button beneath the title **Select a disc image to write** to open up your file manager. Locate and double-click the downloaded disc image file to load it. Upon automatically returning to the **Image Burning Setup** window, note that the disc image file is now listed as the disc image to write.
5. The blank CD/DVD you inserted should be automatically listed underneath the title **Select a disc to write to**. If not, click the button to select it manually.
6. Click the **properties** button to open the properties window, and then click the button beneath the title **Burning Speed**. We strongly recommend you select the slowest speed available. Once selected, click the **Close** button.
7. Click the **Burn** button to start the burning process. If necessary, follow any on-screen instructions provided.

Burning to a CD/DVD in Microsoft Windows

Newer versions of Microsoft Windows (Windows 7 and later) include a disc image burner. If you do not have a newer version of Microsoft Windows you will need to download one of the many free disc burning software utilities.

Xfce environments tend to include XFBurn. KDE environments tend to include K3b. GNOME environments tend to include Brasero.

It's a good idea to use a rewriteable disc (e.g. CD-RW or DVD-RW). Although slightly more expensive individually than a write-once disc you can reuse the disc again and again, for example when the next version of Manjaro is released!

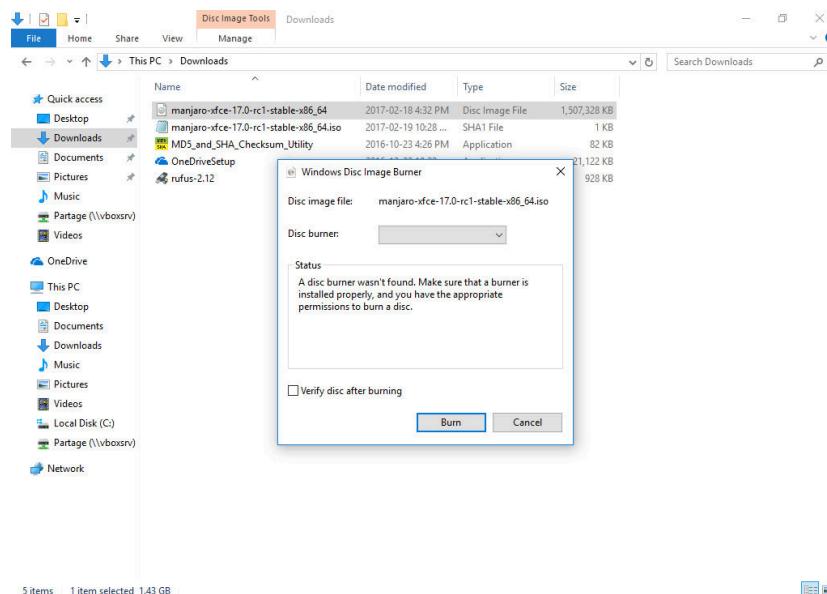
We strongly recommend you select the slowest speed available when burning to disc in order minimise the possibility of corruption during the burning process.

It's also a good idea to avoid using any applications which make intensive use of system resources while burning, and in particular avoid heavy disc access. If the burner software can't read the disc image file quickly enough the burning process can be interrupted.

Burning using Windows Disc Image Burner

Selecting the disc image file and clicking on **Burn disc image** will start the **Windows Disc Image Burner** program. This makes the process of burning to a disc very straightforward:

1. Insert a blank CD/DVD into your disc drive.
2. Start **Windows Disc Image Burner**.
3. Select your CD/DVD in the **Disc burner** menu.
4. Click **Burn**.



1: Windows Disc Image Burner in Microsoft Windows 10

Burning using a third-party application

For versions of Microsoft Windows earlier than Windows 7 (e.g. Windows XP) you may need to download and install third-party disc burning software. There are many free examples available that will be found by a web search, but here are some of the most popular:

Name	Website	Video tutorial
Imgburn	http://imgburn.com/	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XihCQgmeGV4
CDBurnerXP	https://cdburnerxp.se/en/	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LxYkFdwn1qI
InfraRecorder	http://infrarecorder.org/	

The burning process for each of these applications is similar, with small differences in user interface. The websites listed above will

Table 2: Third-party disc burning software for Microsoft Windows

provide information about features and screenshots of the applications themselves. Of course, it might also be worthwhile to take the time to read around and choose one for yourself!

Writing to a USB flash drive in Linux

To take advantage of the faster access times and much quieter nature of a USB flash drive, there are a number of methods of writing the disc image file. One of the easiest is to use **SUSE Studio Image-writer**.

SUSE Studio Imagewriter should be available for installation from your distribution's Software Center / Software Manager / Package Manager / repositories. Once *SUSE Studio Imagewriter* has been downloaded and installed, ensure that your USB flash drive is plugged in before starting the application.

The process of using *SUSE Studio Imagewriter* is very straightforward:

1. Click on the centre icon.
2. Navigate to where you downloaded the disc image file, and select it.
3. Ensure that your USB flash drive has been selected from the drop-down menu.
4. Click on the **Write** button.
5. Once it has finished, reboot your system, making sure to select the USB flash drive as the boot device in the BIOS menu (or its UEFI equivalent).

Using the CLI

If you don't want to install extra software, and you are comfortable using the command line, there's an even easier way of writing a disc image to a USB device.

1. Connect the USB flash drive to your PC, open a terminal and `cd` to where you downloaded the disc image.
2. Check the device identifier with: `sudo fdisk -l`.
3. Write the image with:
`sudo dd if=manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso of=/dev/(Device identifier from above) bs=4M`

My USB drive is at `/dev/sdc` so I would use:



2: SUSE Studio Imagewriter
[https://en.opensuse.org/
SDB:Live_USB_stick](https://en.opensuse.org/SDB:Live_USB_stick)

```
sudo dd if=manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso of=/dev/sdc
bs=4M
```

To view how the writing process progresses, use the option `status=progress`:

```
sudo dd if=manjaro-xfce-17.0-stable-x86_64.iso of=/dev/sdc
bs=4M status=progress
```

4. Once completed reboot your system and boot from the USB drive by selecting it as the boot device in the BIOS menu (or its UEFI equivalent).

Writing to a USB flash drive in Microsoft Windows

For Windows users using USB media, Rufus⁹ is highly recommended. Rufus should use the following settings:

Device: "choose your USB" (Attention: choose correctly, the device selected here will be formatted!)

Partition scheme: MBR partition scheme for BIOS or UEFI

File system: FAT32 (Default)

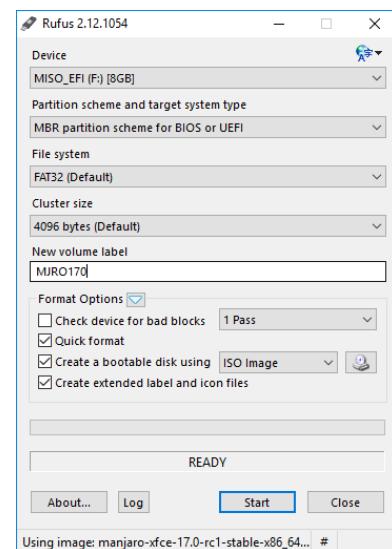
Cluster size: 4096 bytes (Default)

Volume label: MJRO1610

Format Options: Quick format. Create a bootable disk using ISO Image (Click on the DVD icon to select your downloaded disc image). Create extended label and icon files.

Click **Start**, and you are done (though it takes between around two and five minutes to complete)!

⁹ <https://rufus.akeo.ie/>



3: Rufus with recommended settings

Part II

Installing Manjaro

Booting the Live environment

Booting the Live environment, whether from CD/DVD or USB flash drive, will give you an overview of the Manjaro Linux environment and let you test how well it will run on your machine. This is very useful to check before committing to install a new operating system!

For best results you should be connected to the Internet. If you have a wired Ethernet connection, and plug in before booting the Live environment, Manjaro will automatically set up a connection. If you have a wireless (Wi-Fi) connection you can set up the wireless network once you have reached the Manjaro desktop.

The method of selecting the boot device varies considerably across machines. You may need to hold one key, for example **<Esc>**, ****, or **<F10>**, to select the boot device. Or, you may need to set the option in your BIOS. If you're not sure, your machine's user guide will have detail of the method you need, alternatively a web search will also quickly turn up the answer.

The boot menu

When you boot from your installation media (CD/DVD or USB flash drive) you should be presented with the Manjaro boot screen. This screen provides several options to help get the best experience from the Live environment.

It is possible at this stage to set your preferred language and keyboard layout before using Manjaro. This means that you will be able to use and install Manjaro in your native language straight away.

Setting your language and keyboard layout

First, set your preferred language by pressing the **<F2>** key. The options available can be highlighted for selection by using the arrow keys on your keyboard. In this instance, English (UK) has been highlighted for the user.

Once selected, press **<Enter>** to confirm and to be taken back to the boot menu.



1: Boot menu



2: Language selection

Selecting the language will also set a keyboard layout appropriate to that language, for example it will select QWERTY for English and AZERTY for French. If this doesn't match your layout, or perhaps you have a US layout but speak German, press **<F2>** again, but this time select **Keyboard**. Pick the language that matches your keyboard layout, and press **<Enter>** to confirm and return to the boot menu.

Choosing the drivers

There are two main sets of drivers that can be used by Manjaro: **Free** and **non-Free**. The differences are not minor, and your choice can depend on your computer hardware. Some of the drivers are used for display. The one associated with your graphics card will be selected in both of these categories.

Free drivers are open-source, like Manjaro itself, written and updated by a large community. For older hardware and that with Intel-based integrated graphics, this is the best choice.

Non-Free drivers are closed-source, written and updated only by the hardware manufacturers. This is generally the best choice for newer hardware with AMD or Nvidia dedicated graphics. At the time of writing, **non-Free** drivers are the best choice for Nvidia graphics and AMD graphics newer than the 8000-series. For older AMD and Nvidia hardware the **Free** drivers work very well. For AMD graphics older than the HD5000-series **Free** drivers are the best choice.

To start Manjaro with **Free** drivers, choose **Start Manjaro Linux** from the boot menu.

To start Manjaro with **non-Free** drivers, choose **Start (non-free drivers)** from the boot menu.

Welcome to Manjaro

Once you select Start, Manjaro will boot up. You may see a lot of scrolling text - don't worry, this shows the system is working! After a little while, assuming your hardware is compatible, you will be presented with a Live desktop environment and a nice friendly welcome screen.

The welcome screen gives some links to common tasks, documentation and the support channels. There are also links to the installation programs. Don't worry if you close the welcome screen: you can load it again, and all the links are also present elsewhere in the menus.

If in doubt, choose **Free** drivers. If you want to play games, choose **non-Free** drivers.



3: Start Manjaro Linux



4: Welcome to Manjaro!

Some useful definitions

If you sometimes feel like saying “*What do these words mean, is he just making them up?*”, this chapter is for you. Installing a new operating system may force you to face some concepts you have barely even heard of before, such as *partitions* and *file systems*. This can be a bit overwhelming at first, but do not despair, as this short chapter is here to help you! Most of these terms will only be important if you choose to manually install Manjaro. In the three different assisted installation options, the installer will do almost all the work for you.

First of all, installing a new operating system will require you (or the installer) to perform some disc management tasks in order to free some space on your drive to be able to install it. You will most likely encounter the following terms.

Partition A partition is a portion of a drive which stores data (files) using a certain format named file system. It may be part of an operating system installation, or simply be used for storing files. A drive may be split into multiple partitions, each acting as its own separate entity and using its own file system. All drives, be they hard drives or flash drives such as USB keys, contain one or more partitions. An example of a partition is the famous C: drive used by Microsoft Windows.

File system A file system is a format used to write files in a partition. Some popular file systems are **ntfs** (used by Microsoft Windows), **ext4** (used by Linux), **fat32**, **btrfs** and **xfs**. Each one is used in a different context and has its own strengths and weaknesses. For instance, **fat32** can be read by about any operating system, but each file stored must be smaller than 4 GB.

Partition table A partition table is a list of all the partitions existing on a drive. The two main types are **Master Boot Record** (MBR) and **GUID Partition Table** (GPT). Different partition tables allow for different types of partitions on them, such as primary and extended. MBR partition tables are generally used on older BIOS systems and can only contain a limited number of primary parti-

tions, while GPT is generally used on newer UEFI systems and do not have such a restriction. This is not always the case though.

Directory A directory is what is often called a folder on Windows. You can treat them as one and the same.

Directory Tree The directories on Linux are arranged in the form of a tree, originating from the / directory, called the “root” directory. Each one has a specific use. For example, the /home directory stores the users’ personal files, while the /etc directory stores system-wide configuration files. A complete description of the directory tree can be found on Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filesystem_Hierarchy_Standard.

Mount point A mount point represents the directory from which a partition is accessible. Just like clicking on the C: drive in your file manager on Windows allows you to see the contents of this partition, clicking on a directory where a partition is mounted will allow you to view its contents.

Moreover, several programs are used when booting your computer, from starting the hardware to logging in the operating system.

Live CD A Live CD is a version of an operating system that runs in the computer’s memory, without needing to access the hard drive. It is generally loaded from a CD, DVD or USB key that was used at boot. Changes made to the Live environment are not saved. Live CDs are often used to give a preview of an operating system and include tools to install it. They can also be used to manage the hard drive’s partitions and rescue lost data.

BIOS The **Basic Input/Output System** (BIOS) is a firmware used when booting to initialize hardware. It offers various settings in menus accessible when pressing a specific key during boot. Systems using BIOS often have a MBR partition table. It can be used to boot on a USB stick, start a Live environment and install Manjaro.

UEFI The **Unified Extensible Firmware Interface** (UEFI) is the successor of the BIOS. It is often used on newer computers. It still has BIOS-like menus and often has a legacy mode, which uses BIOS. The partition scheme used by operating systems on a computer using UEFI is slightly different from the one used on a BIOS system. For instance, a small fat32 partition is needed to contain some files used when booting. Systems using UEFI often have a GPT partition table.

Boot loader A boot loader is a program which enables you to choose which operating system to boot when you turn on your computer. At boot, a list of all detected operating systems on the computer is displayed. One of the most widely used boot loaders is **GRUB**. It is the one installed by Calamares, the installer used by Manjaro.

Feel free to come back to this short list if you ever need it! Some links are scattered throughout the guide for quick access.

Assisted installation on a BIOS system

The graphical installer used by Manjaro is called Calamares. It offers a choice of three different assisted installation options, which we will cover here one by one. The manual installation is presented in chapter **Manual installation on a BIOS system**.

Erase disk and let Calamares set up the partitions

The simplest installation method is to overwrite the entire hard drive and let the installer suggest you a partition scheme for your new operating system. This is a suitable method if you want to start from scratch, since you will lose all data stored on your disk. If you want to preserve your data, you can back it up on an external hard disk before the installation and copy it back after. The other two assisted installation methods also enable you to preserve your data.

Choose your language

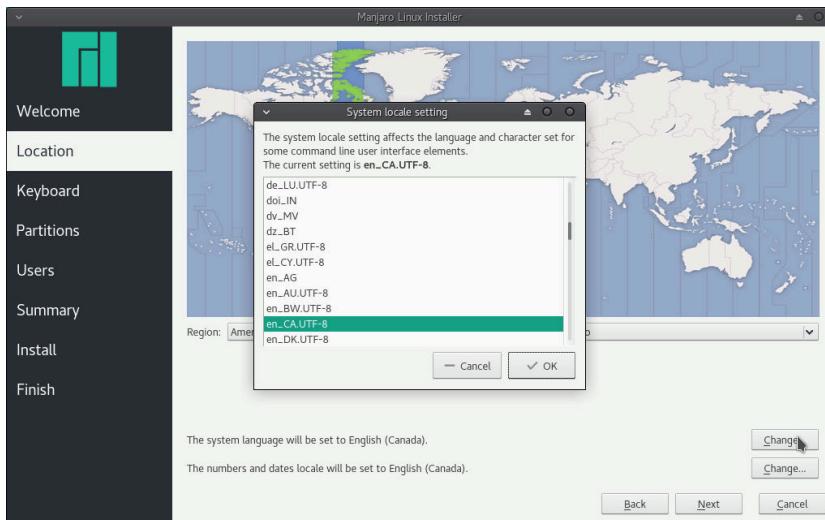


1: This screen is the first one you will see when starting the installer. You can select your language from the **Language** menu. Also, if you differ from the recommended settings, such as not being connected to the Internet or not being plugged in, this is where you will receive a warning.

Choose your location

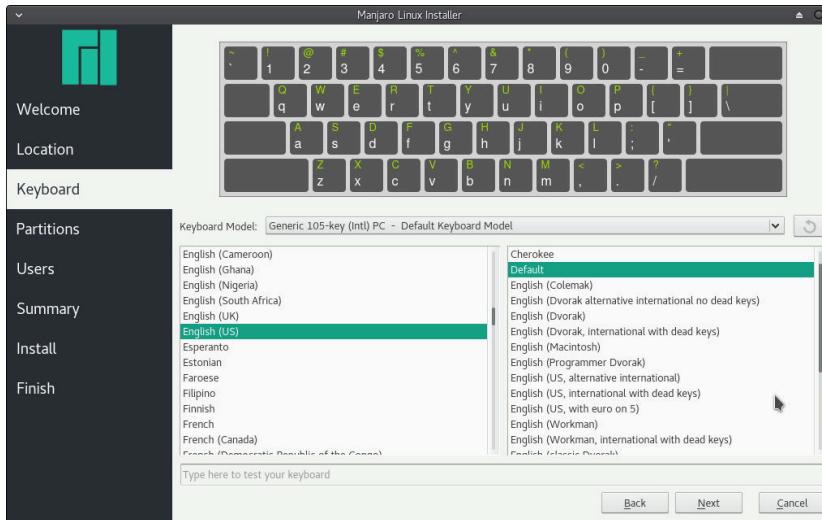


2: You can select your time zone by either clicking on the map close to your location or by browsing the **Region** and **Zone** menus.

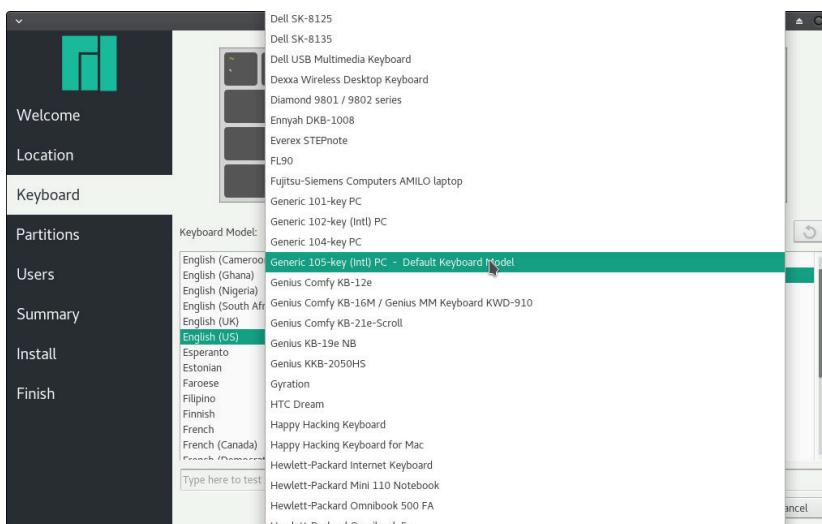


3: When clicking on one of the **Change...** buttons, a menu will pop up, allowing you to respectively choose the system language and the format of the numbers and dates. Choosing the ones corresponding to your language and country is best.

Choose your keyboard layout

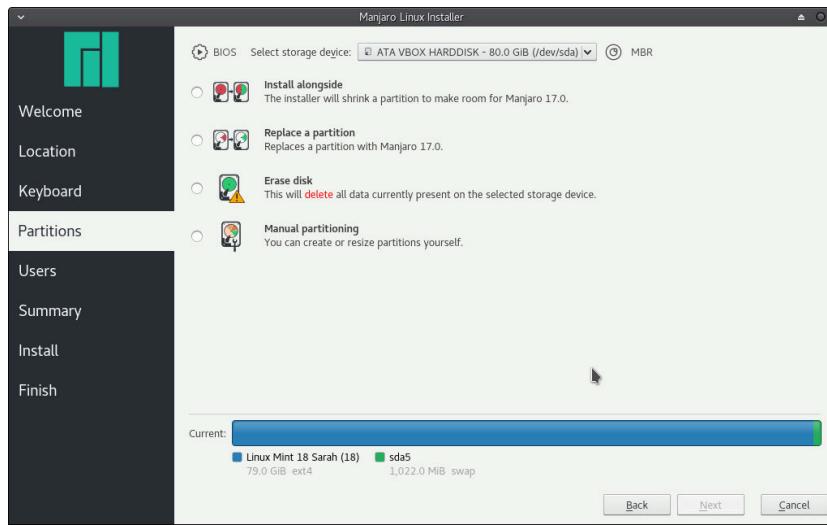


4: Next, you will be able to choose your keyboard layout. Choose your language in the list to the left and then the desired subcategory in the list to the right. This will ensure the characters you type are the same on the screen as they are on your keyboard.



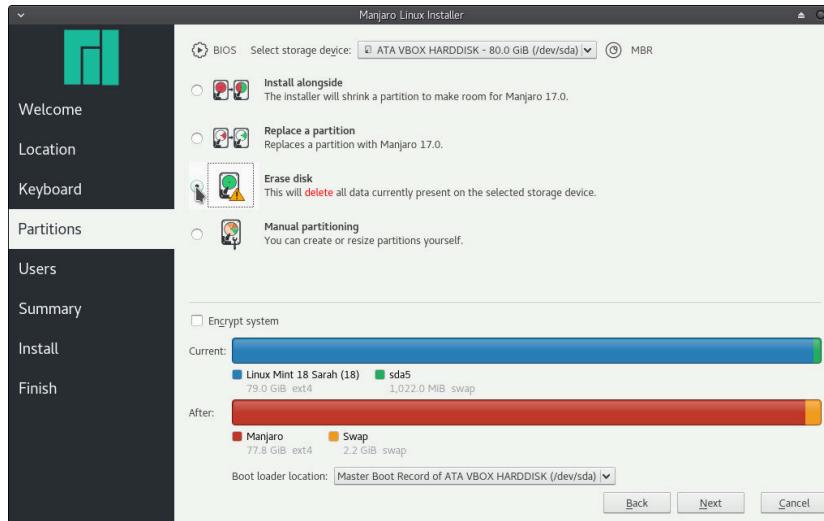
5: You can also choose your keyboard model from the **Keyboard Model** menu. The list is very extensive, so yours will likely be listed there!

Select the partitioning method



The first option will install Manjaro alongside your existing operating system by shrinking a partition to make room for Manjaro. The second one will install Manjaro on an existing partition, erasing all data stored on it. The last one allows you to create, modify and delete partitions yourself so your system is exactly the way you want it to be. The latter option will be covered in chapter **Manual installation on a BIOS system**. For a refresher on partitions, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.

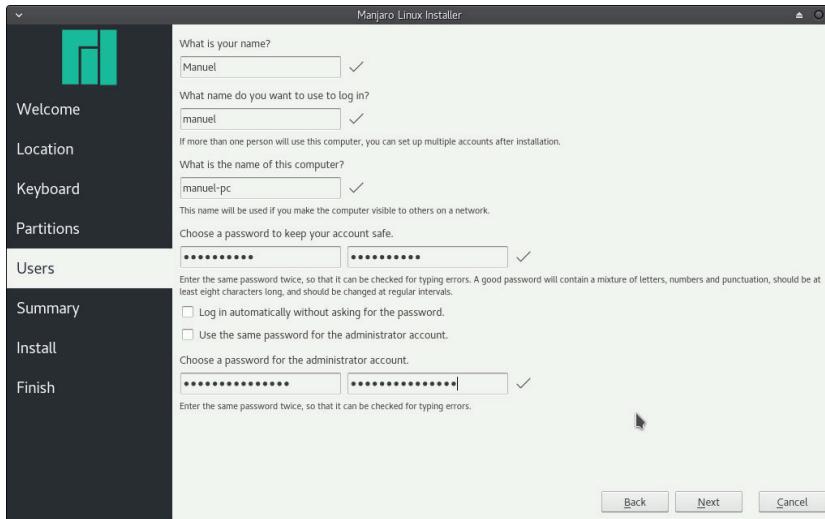
6: It will then be time to decide which method to use to partition your hard drive. The selected hard drive is displayed at the top of the window. Left of it is an indication stating if it uses BIOS or UEFI. This chapter covers systems using BIOS. UEFI systems are covered in chapter **Assisted installation on a UEFI system**. The partition table type, MBR or GPT, is indicated at the right of the disk. The current state of your drive is displayed at the bottom of the window. Several partitioning options are available. This section will focus on the third option, which erases all data on your drive and automatically creates a partition scheme that will suit Manjaro.



7: When selecting the option **Erase disk**, the bottom of the window will change to display your current hard drive setup and the one proposed by the installer, which will be applied at the very end of the installation process, when accepting the summary shown in subsection **Look back at your choices and confirm**.

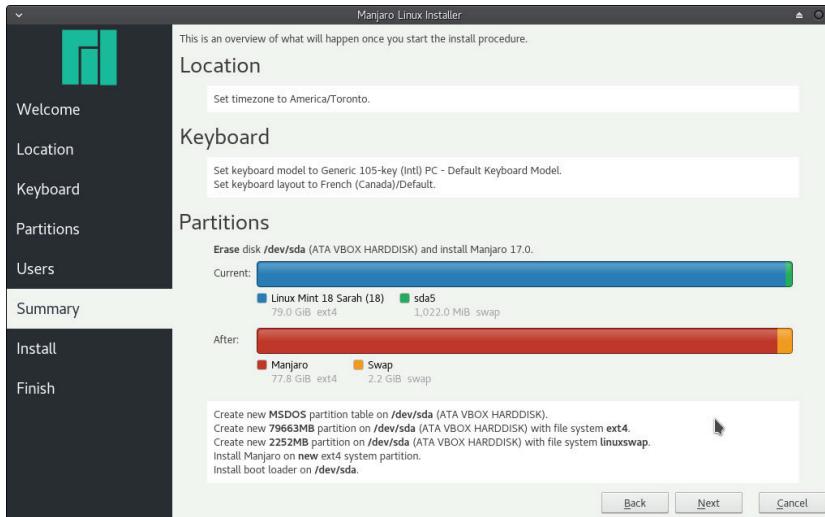
You can also choose to encrypt your Manjaro partition. That way, anyone trying to access to the data it contains will have to enter a password of your choosing. The **Boot loader location** menu allows you to choose whether or not to install a boot loader, and if so where to install it. A boot loader is a program which enables you to choose which operating system to boot when you turn on your computer. If you are unsure what to do, we recommend keeping the default choice.

Set user information



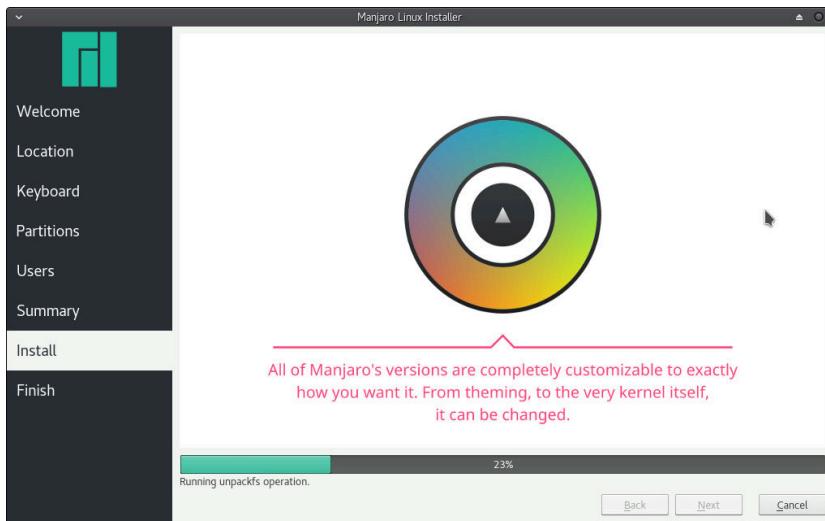
Look back at your choices and confirm

8: Next, you will be asked for your **name**, which will be used by some programs to greet you, a **username** to log in the system, the **name of your computer** as it will be seen by others on the same network as you, and a **password**. The password must be entered twice to make sure there are no typos. Finally, you can decide whether or not you want to be asked your password when logging in and if you want to use the same password for the administrator account. Recommended settings are already selected. Unless you really prefer it another way, we suggest you leave it as is.

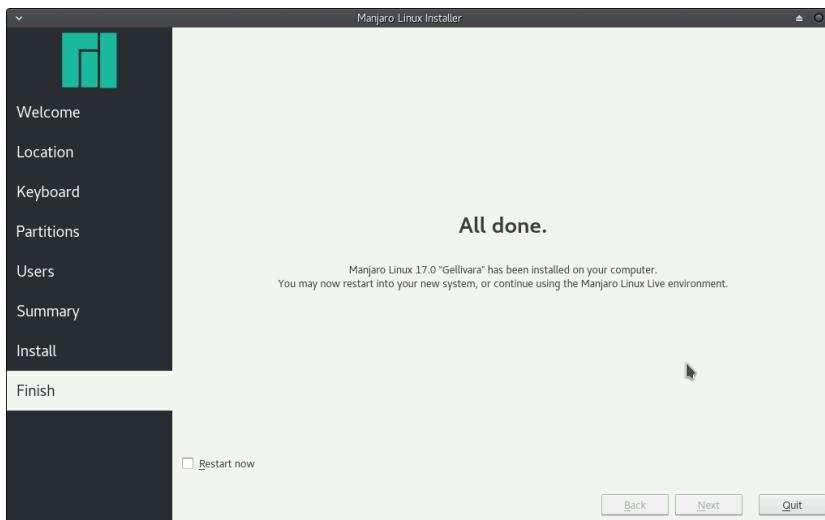


9: As the last step before the installation takes place, you will be presented with a short summary of all the choices you made in the other sections. Make sure the partition scheme is to your liking, as this is the point of no return. **Once you click Next, you will no longer be able to edit the partition scheme and all data stored on the partitions you chose to overwrite will be lost.** If you changed your mind, you can go **Back** a few times to choose another setup. The information stored in other filled fields will be kept, so you will not need to write it again. Once you are satisfied with the summary, click **Next** to start the installation.

Installation...



... complete!



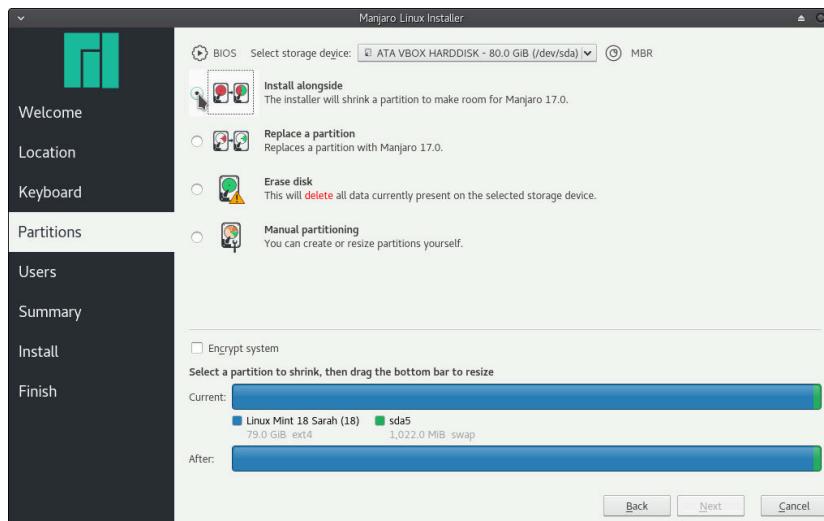
However, overwriting the whole hard drive may not always be the desired installation method. More control can be achieved by using the other options offered in the installer, which do not erase the whole hard drive.

10: You can now kick back and let the installation proceed! While the installation takes place, a slideshow will present you some key features of your new operating system, Manjaro. The installation should take but a few minutes. The progress bar will fill up slowly at first but it will soon pick up speed.

11: The installation is now done! To restart your system immediately and boot into your new operating system, select **Restart now** and then click **Quit**. If you want to continue exploring the live version of Manjaro, click **Quit** without selecting **Restart now**. When restarting, if you changed the boot order to boot on the live media, you will need to put it back as it was to boot on your hard drive.

Install alongside an existing operating system

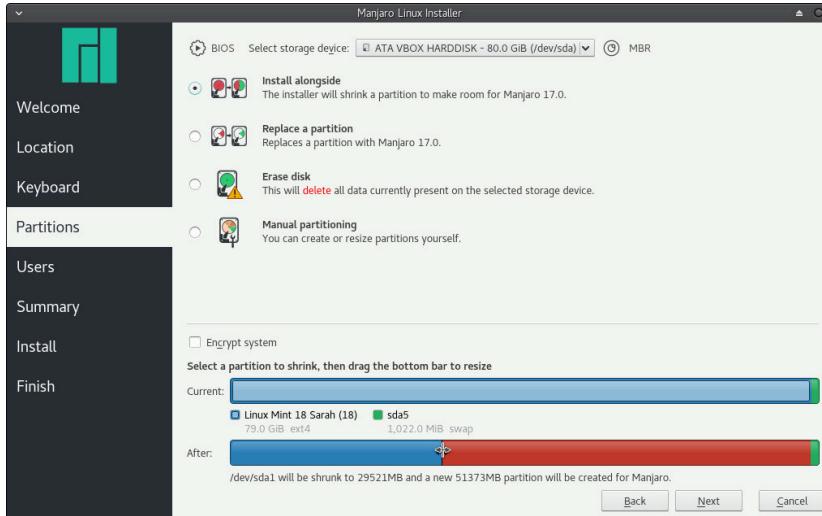
Another available option is to shrink an existing partition to make room on your disk and used the freed space to install Manjaro. This is a suitable method if you want to dual-boot two operating systems but do not want to go through the hassle of partitioning your disk yourself. This part will be handled by the installer.



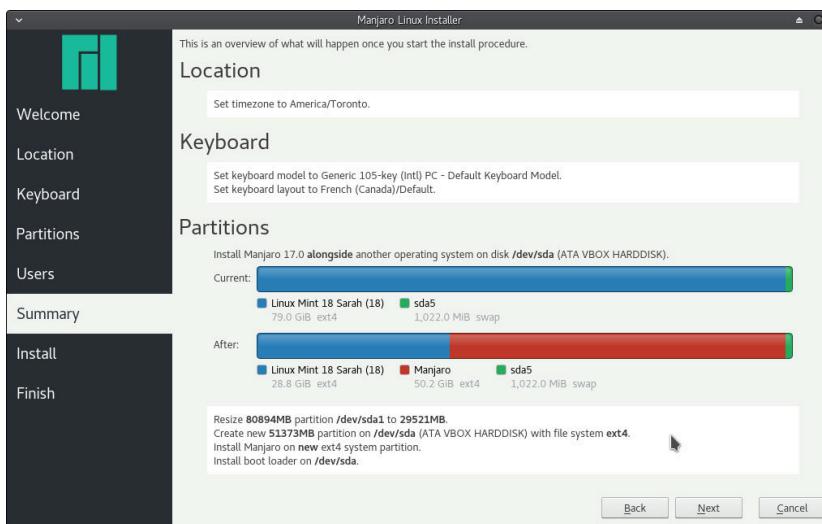
1: When selecting the option to install Manjaro alongside another operating system, the bottom of the window will display a bar representing the current state of the hard drive and another representing its state after modifications, which at first is identical.



2: When clicking on a partition in the bar representing the current state, the bottom bar will change to show this partition split in two.



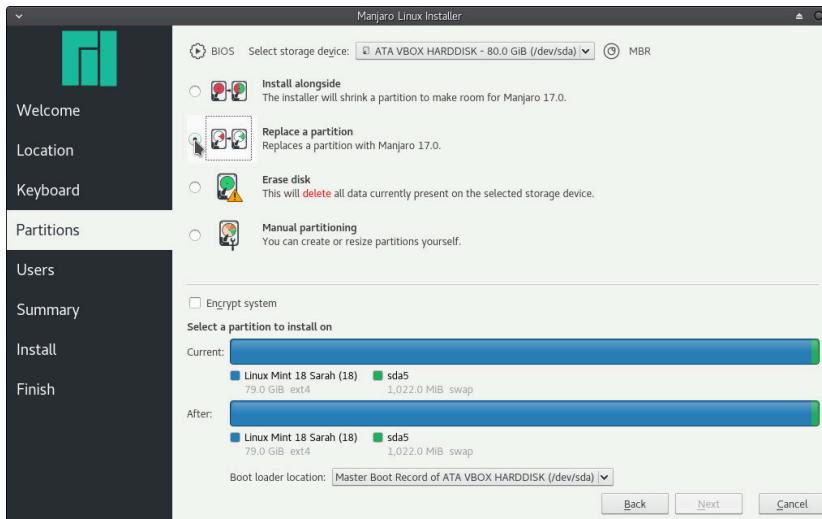
3: Click and drag the separation between the two parts to change the amount of space that will be freed to install Manjaro. On this picture, Manjaro will be installed on the part indicated in red. Please note that you cannot shrink the existing partition to a size smaller than the space needed to store the data on it. This limits how much the separation can be moved to the left. However, you must also free enough space to be able to install Manjaro. This limits how much the separation can be moved to the right.



4: The rest of the process is similar to the one presented earlier in section **Erase disk and let Calamares set up the partitions**. You will once again enter your user information and get a summary of your choices. Once you click **Next**, the installation will begin. This is your last chance to make changes.

Replacing existing partition

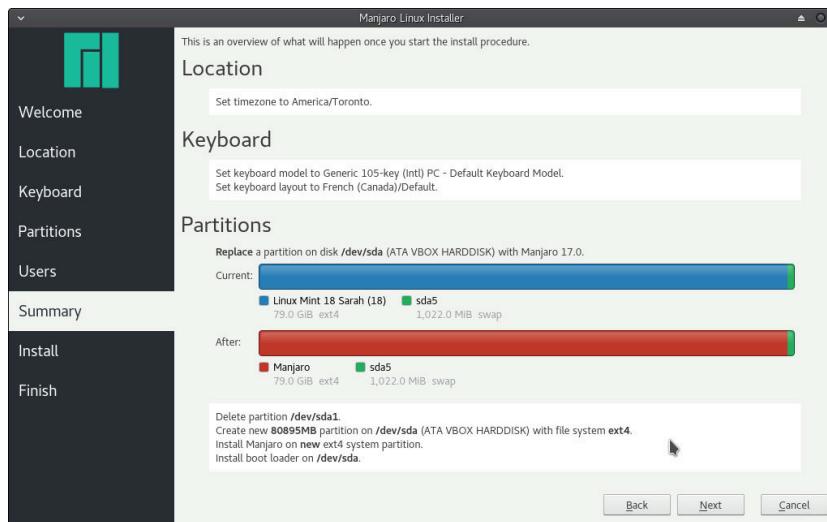
Another option would be to select an existing partition and overwrite it to install Manjaro. This could be useful if you are already dual-booting two different operating systems and want to replace one of the two instead of installing a third one. You may also wish to prepare an empty partition yourself beforehand and select it during the installation. This will be covered in section **Using GParted to create, delete and modify partitions**.



1: When selecting the option to install Manjaro on an existing partition, the bottom of the window will display a bar representing the current state of the hard drive and another representing its state after modifications, which at first is identical.



2: When clicking a partition in the bar representing the current state, the bottom bar will change to show this partition overwritten by Manjaro.

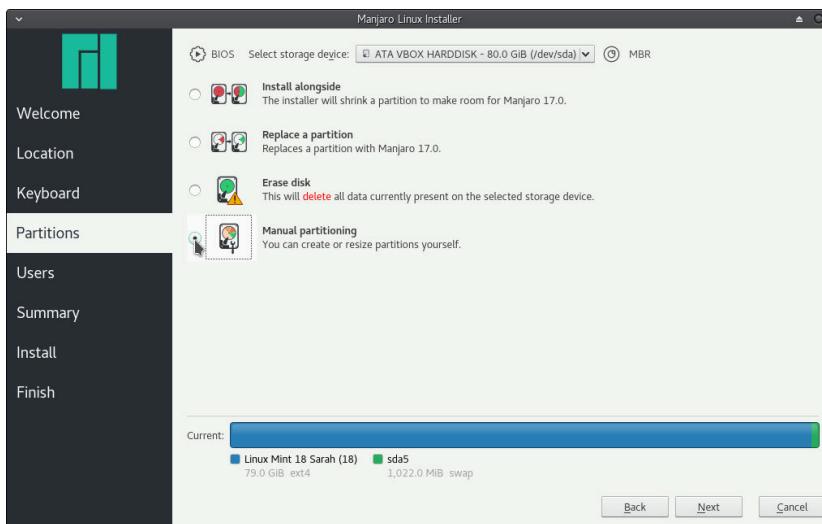


3: The rest of the process is similar to the one presented earlier in section **Erase disk and let Calamares set up the partitions**. You will once again enter your user information and get a summary of your choices. Once you click **Next**, the installation will begin. This is your last chance to make changes.

Manual installation on a BIOS system

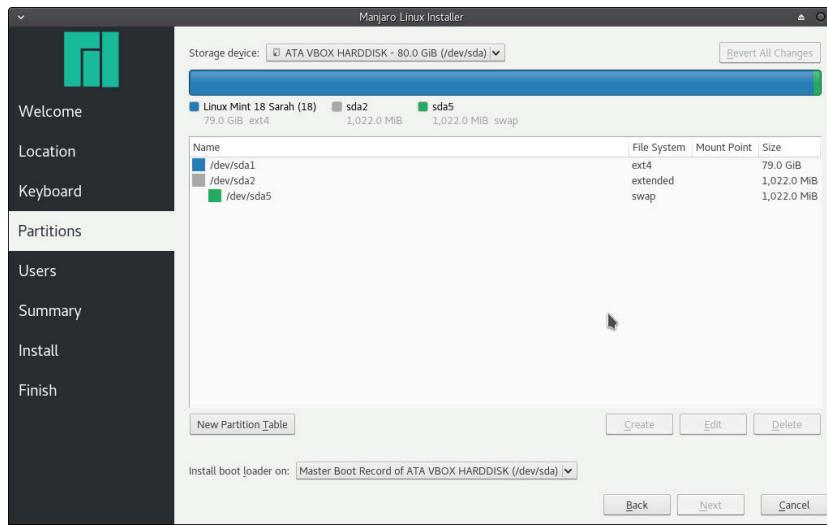
The last option is the one that gives you the most control. You will get the chance to adjust yourself the partition scheme of your hard drive using the built-in partition manager and make it exactly the way you want it.

Setting everything from within Calamares

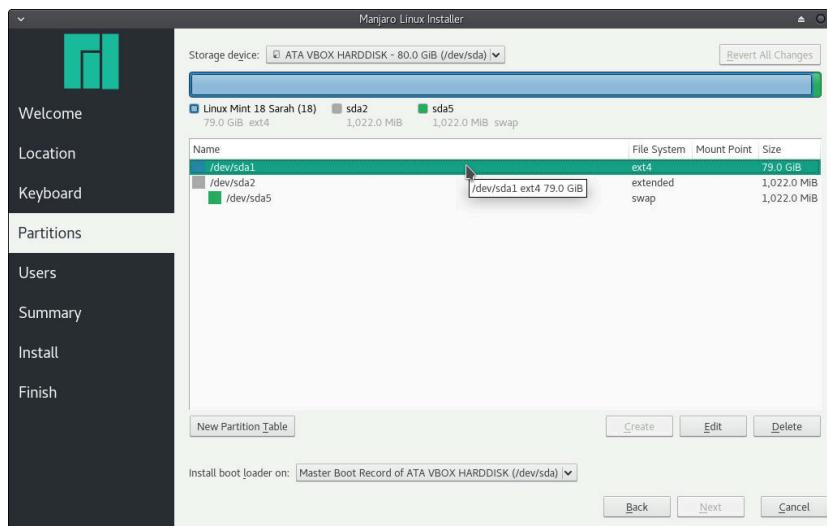


1: Unlike in other scenarios, selecting **Manual partitioning** will not change the information displayed at the bottom of the window. Click **Next** to start partitioning.

Free some space

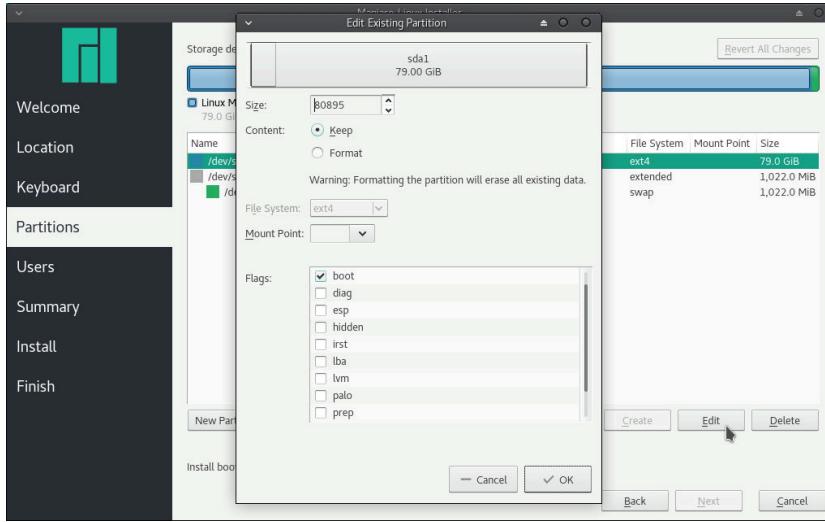


For a refresher on partitions and partition tables, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.

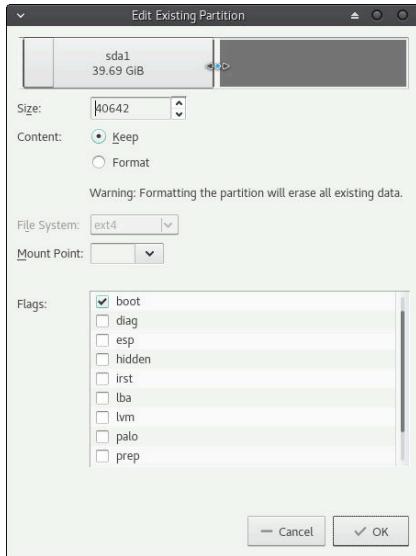


2: The next screen displays the disk being edited and its state, both in the form of a bar and a list of partitions. Both represent the same thing, only in a different form. You can use whichever form you prefer! The button **New Partition Table** allows you to create a new partition table, either of type MBR or GPT. This will erase all data and destroy all partitions on the drive. You can also keep your existing partition table and only edit the partitions on it.

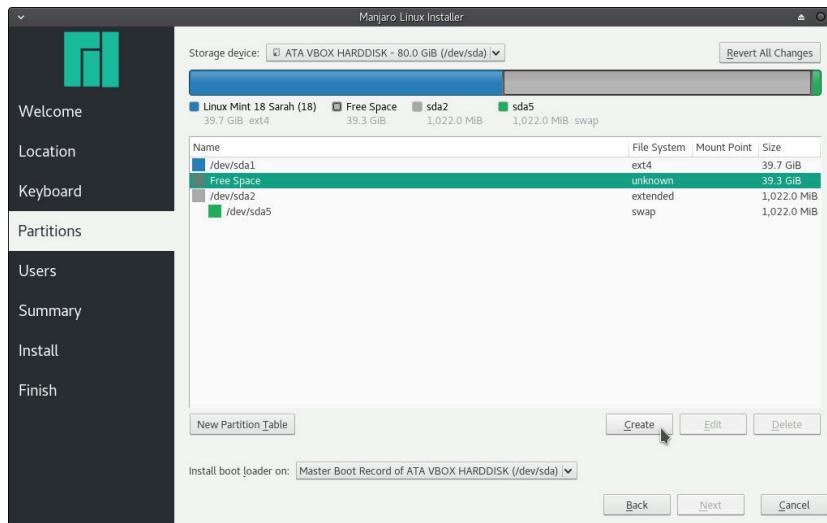
3: Clicking on a partition either in the bar or in the list will highlight it. The options to **Edit** or **Delete** the partition will become available.



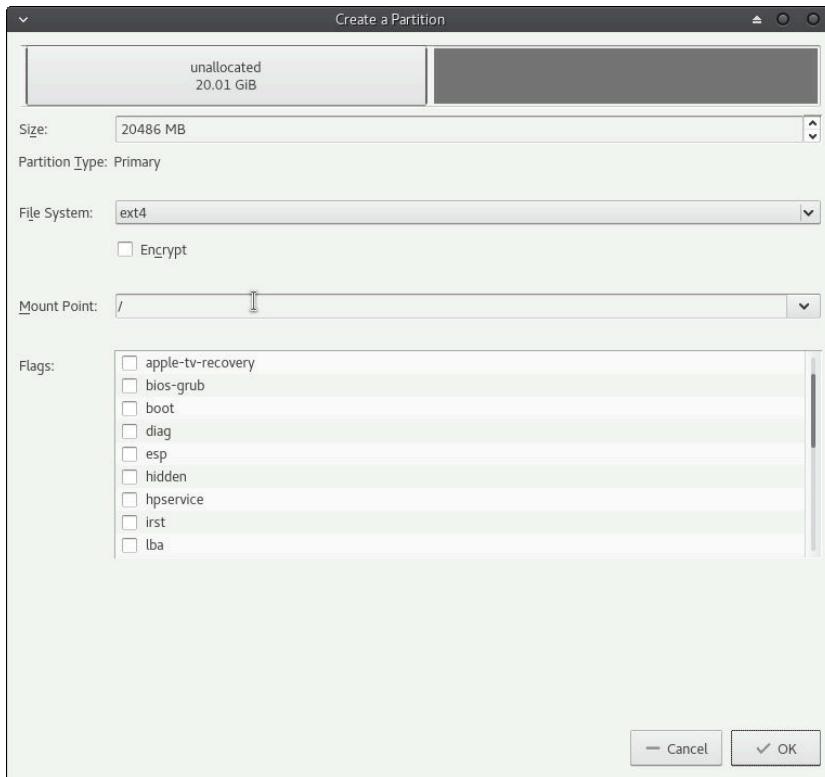
4: Clicking on **Edit** will bring up another window indicating information about the partition, such as its size, what to do with its content, its file system, its mount point if you want to use it for your Manjaro installation and its flags. The portion of the partition that has data on it is located on the left side of the bar and has a slight 3D effect.



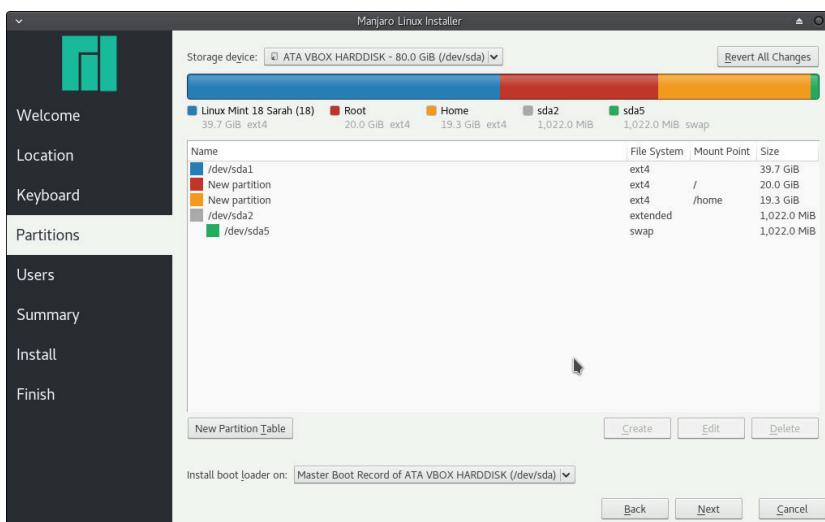
5: Click and drag the edges of the partition to resize it. It cannot be made smaller than the size required to store the data on it. Clicking **OK** will close the window and update the diagram and the list of partitions. **Please note that no actual modifications to your hard drive will take place until you accept the summary later on.**

Create partitions

6: You can then select the space freed and click on **Create** to create a new partition using all of the empty space, or just a fraction of it.



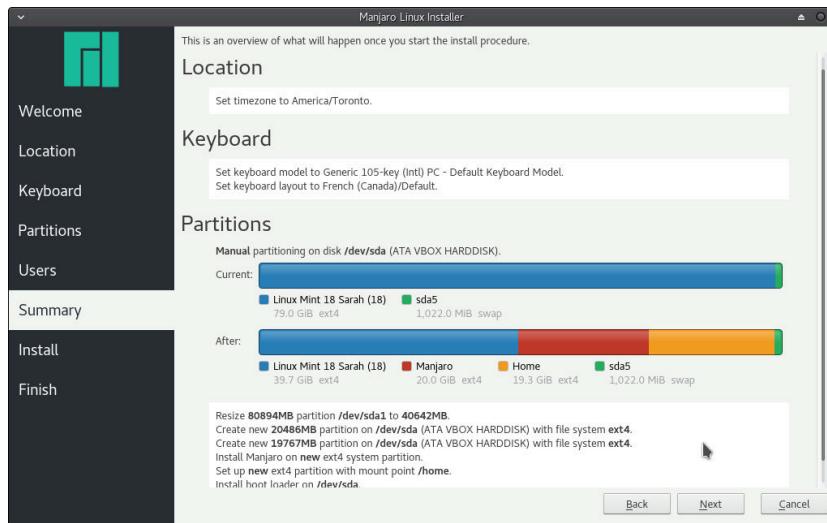
7: A new window will pop up here as well with information about the partition you wish to create. Adjust its size as you wish and choose a file system. For Linux, **ext4** is usually a good choice. Then, choose a mount point for the partition. This represents under which directory each partition will be accessible. **The only obligation is that you must have a partition mounted under /**, which is the root directory of the Linux directory tree, to which all others connect directly or indirectly. You can arrange the rest to your liking. For a refresher on file systems, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.



8: Here I chose to create a separate partition for the **/home** directory, which is used to store user files such as music, pictures and videos. Once everything is done, take a moment to verify if the setup is to your liking. **All partitions that have a mount point specified will be used during the installation of Manjaro**. You can abandon all changes by clicking the **Revert All Changes** at the top right of the window. The **Install boot loader on** menu at the bottom of the window allows you to choose whether or not to install a boot loader, and if so where to install it. Not installing one is useful if you already have one installed and you wish to keep using it.

In this case a swap partition was already created. This partition will be used if you ever run out of RAM to complete operations. If you want or have to create a new one, create a partition as was done for the other ones and choose `linuxswap` as the file system. You do not have to select a mount point for it.

Look back and confirm

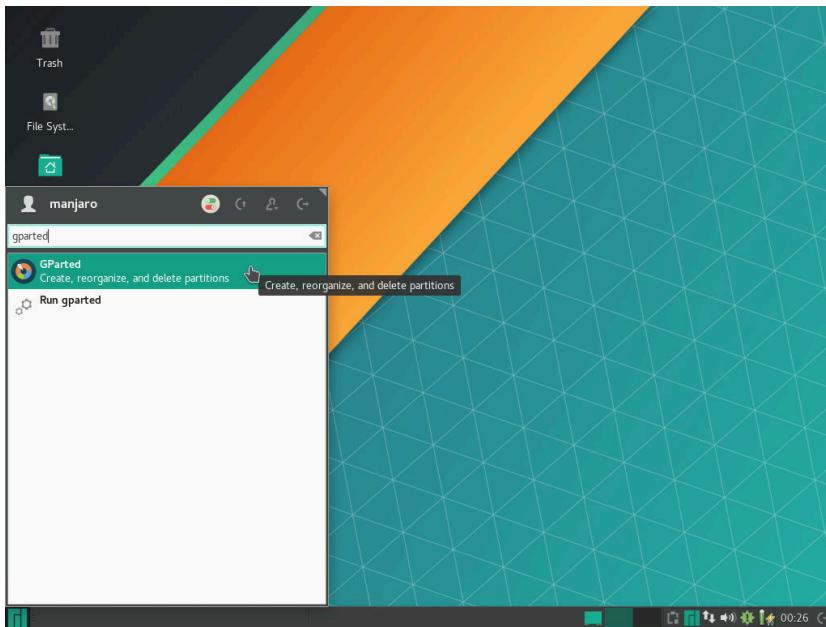


9: The rest of the process is similar to the one presented earlier in section **Erase disk and let Calamares set up the partitions**. You will once again enter your user information and get a summary of your choices. Once you click **Next**, the installation will begin. This is your last chance to make changes.

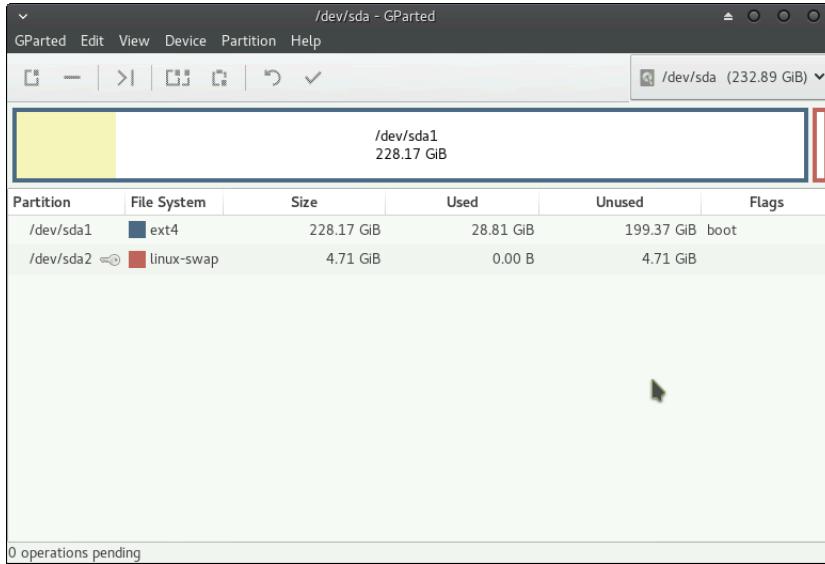
Using GParted to create, delete and modify partitions

GParted is a graphical program used to modify partitions on drives. It is very powerful and yet has a very user-friendly interface. GParted allows you to create and delete partitions, as well as change their attributes, such as their size, their location on the disk and their file system. It can also create partition tables of type MBR and GPT. For a refresher on partitions and partition tables, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.

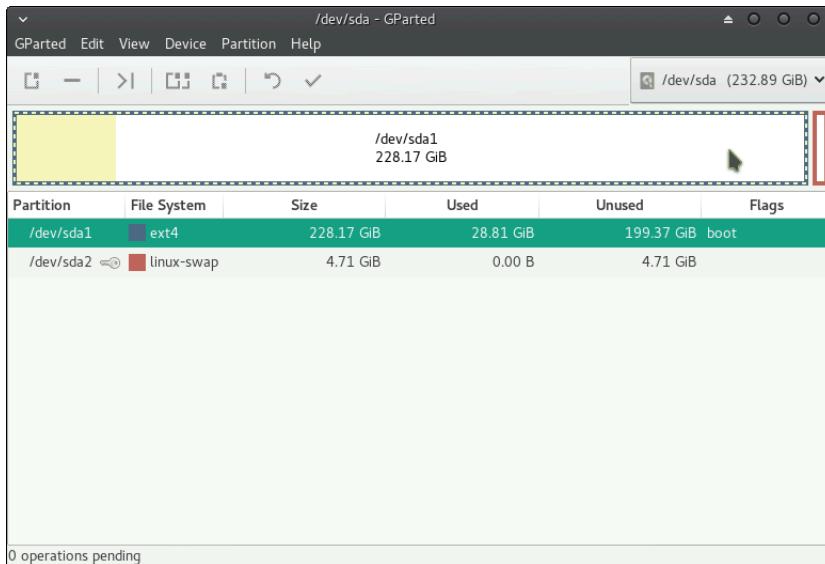
In this section, we will demonstrate how to reduce the size of an existing partition and use the freed space to create two new partitions, which will be used to install Manjaro later on!



1: First things first, let's fire it up! You can find GParted in the menu of the live version of Manjaro. It can also be found in the repositories of most Linux distributions.

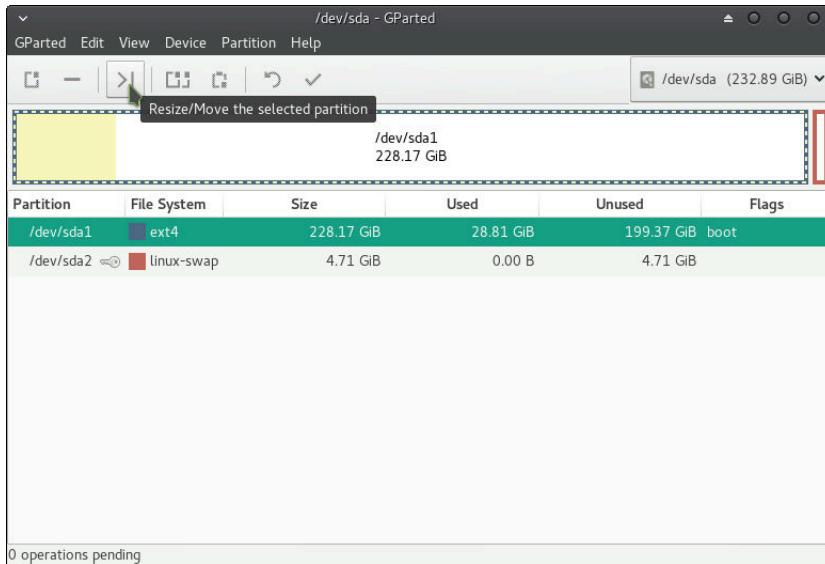


2: After authenticating, a window similar to the one presented on the picture will appear. A bar shows a diagrammatic representation of your drive, which is indicated on the button at the top-right of the window. If you have multiple drives, you can select another by clicking on this button. Each partition is represented by a rectangle in the bar. The coloured part shows the portion that contains data. All partitions are also presented in the form of a list with information about them.

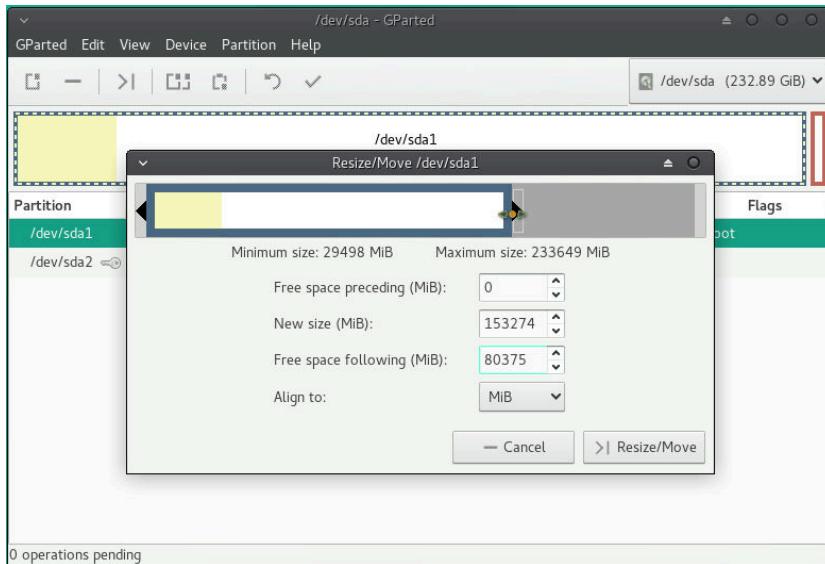


3: Clicking on either a partition in the list or the rectangle in the bar representing it will select it and offer options as to what to do with it.

Shrink an existing partition

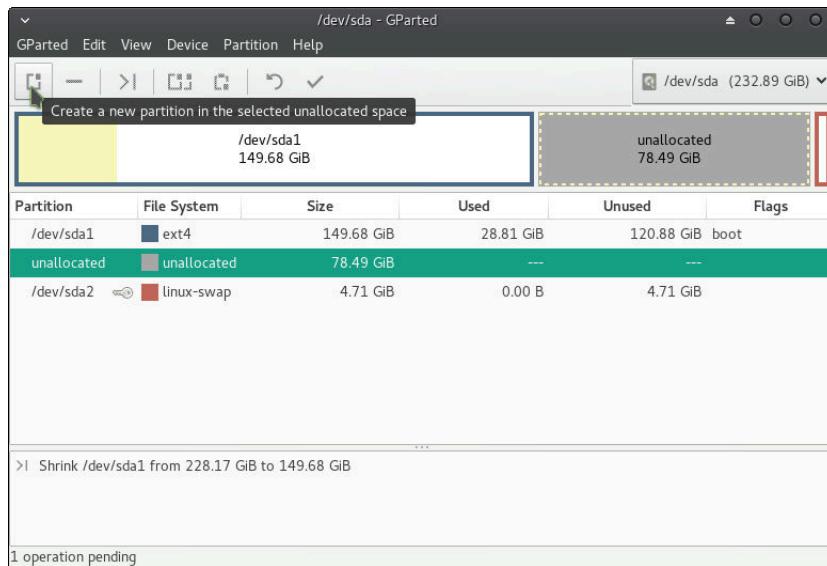


4: In the top panel are several buttons each representing a different action. The first one is disabled for now as it creates a partition from empty space, the second deletes the selected partition and the third one allows to resize the selected partition. This is the one we are interested in.

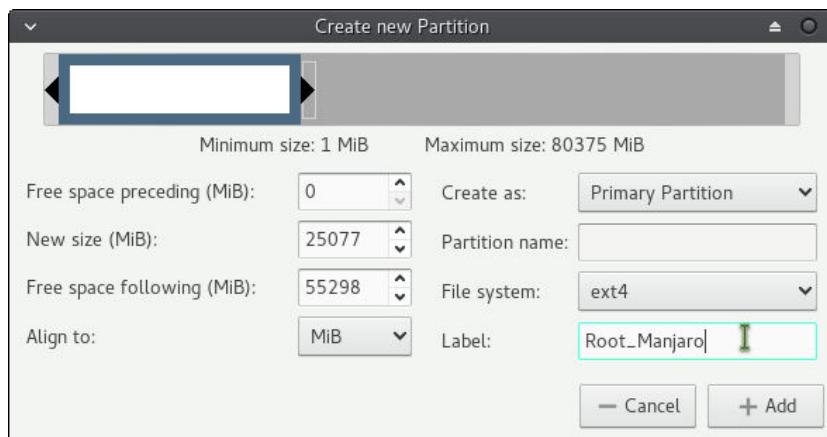


5: Clicking it will bring up another window showing the partition up close at the top as well as the size of the partition. To reduce the size of the partition, click and drag the edges of the rectangle. Alternatively, you can write how much space you want to free on each side of the partition in the fields below. Once some space has been freed, you can also drag the partition around to position it in the space it used to fill. Click the **Resize/Move** button once you are done. **Before resizing a partition, it is strongly suggested to back the data stored on it.**

Create new partitions



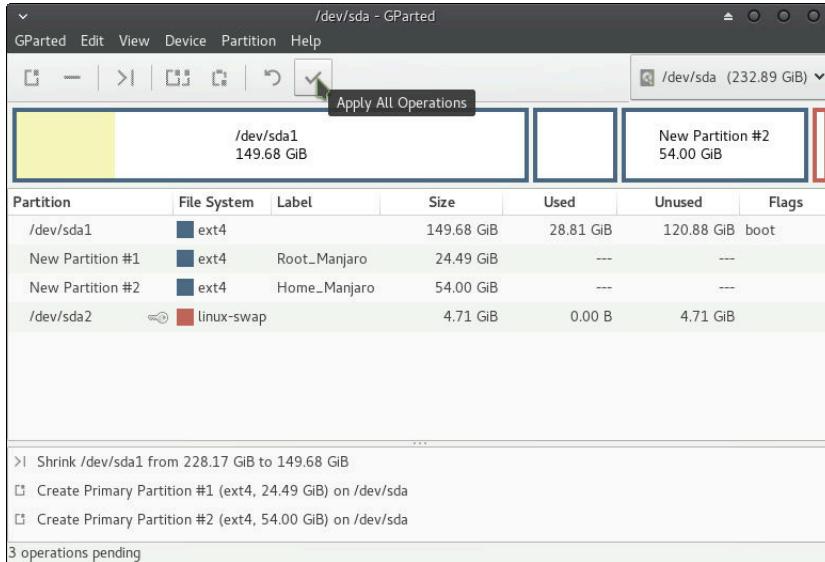
6: Once some space has been freed on the drive, you can use it to create a new partition! Select it and click on the first button in the top bar.



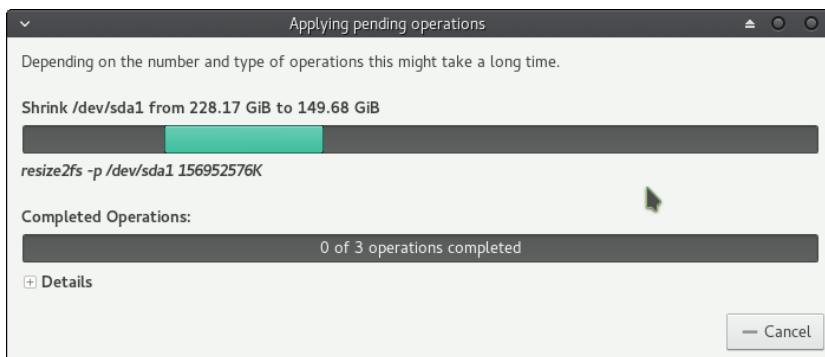
If your new partition does not take all of the available space, you can repeat this step to create other partitions.

7: In the window that pops up, you will get the chance to set the size of the new partition you will create. By default, it takes all of the available free space, but you can change that in the same manner as when resizing the partition earlier. You can also, among other options, choose the file system used by the partition. For Linux partitions, **ext4** usually works fine, though other choices such as **xfs** and **btrfs** are also available. You can also give a label to your partition, which will make it easier for you to identify it. Clicking the **+ Add** button will close the window. For a refresher on file systems, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.

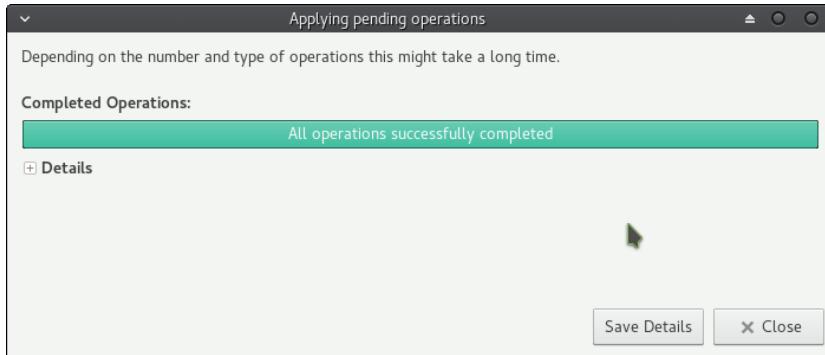
Apply changes



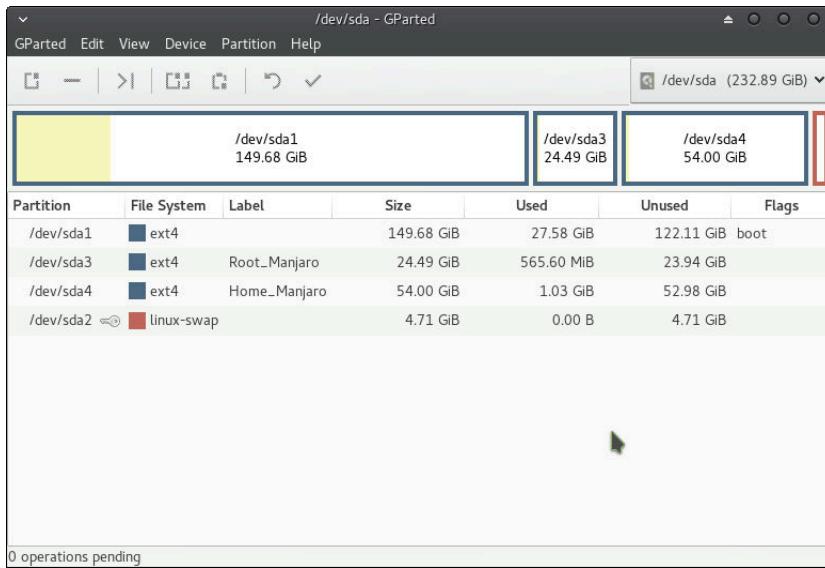
8: After all of this work, still no actual changes have been made to your drive. Instead, your modifications have been recorded into a list, visible at the bottom of the window. To apply the changes, click the checkmark button at the top of the window. This is your last chance to make changes. **Once you click the checkmark button, the modifications will be applied to the drive.**



9: A new window will pop up indicating the operations being worked on...



10: ... and at the end if the modifications were applied successfully!



11: Congratulations, you have now successfully created new partitions which you will be able to use to install Manjaro! This is especially useful when partitioning manually or when replacing an existing partition (Replacing existing partition).

Assisted installation on a UEFI system

UEFI is the commonly agreed on name for both the EFI & UEFI standards which merged. It does not include the old EFI v1, or Apple's own non-standard version of EFI.

Some newer hardware do not use the well-known BIOS to manage boot options. Instead, a new one named UEFI (Unified Extensible Firmware Interface) is used. It still has BIOS-like menus and often has a legacy mode, which uses BIOS. UEFI often goes hand in hand with the infamous Secure Boot option that makes it more difficult to boot operating systems outside of a select few. If your computer came with Microsoft Windows 8 or later installed, your computer uses UEFI and probably has Secure Boot enabled by default. However, the Linux community reacted to this and developed means to install and boot Linux on those systems as well. Some installers, such as Calamares, can even automate the process so it makes virtually no difference to the user whether their machine uses UEFI or BIOS.

Booting in UEFI mode

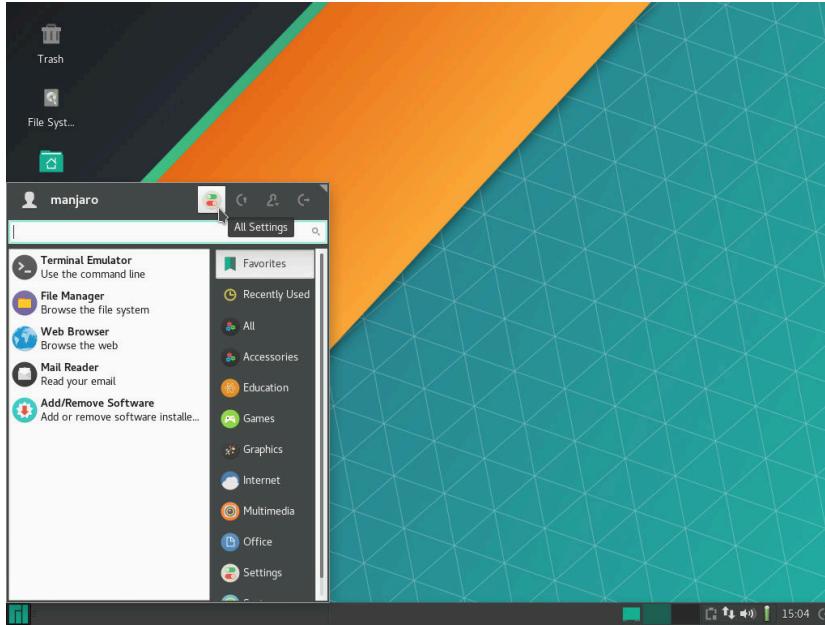
The most important step is to ensure that your machine does not have Secure Boot enabled. Only a very limited number of operating systems will boot with this enabled. You must disable Secure Boot in your BIOS before proceeding; if you don't know how to do this please refer to your computer's user manual, as it differs for all computers.

Once you have booted the system from the Live CD/USB you will be presented with the Manjaro boot selection screen. It has two main options for the drivers it will use (either Free or non-Free). The main difference compared to the case with a BIOS system is the lack of any option for language or keyboard layout. This is actually not that big of a problem, since these can be set up in the live environment and in the Calamares installer, which will make them permanent on the installed system.

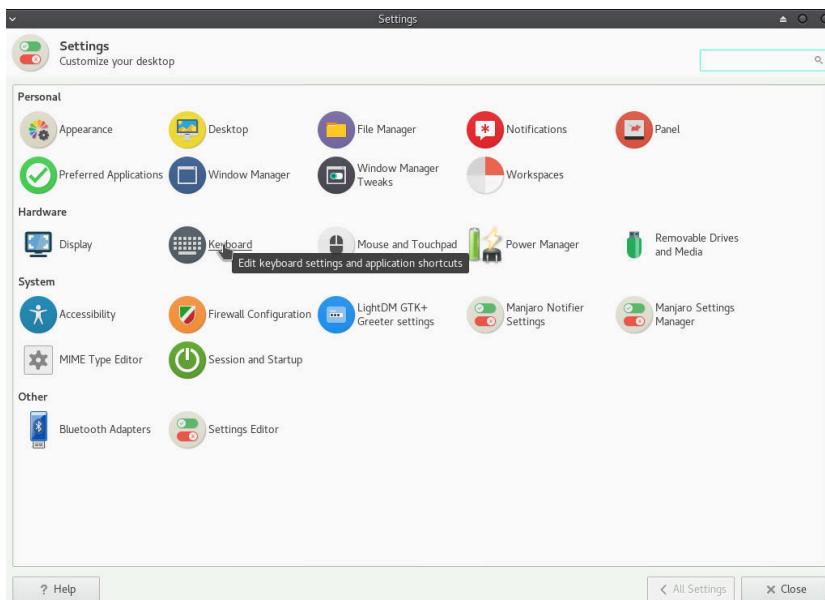


1: In UEFI mode the Manjaro boot selection screen looks quite different. However, the two main installation options are still there.

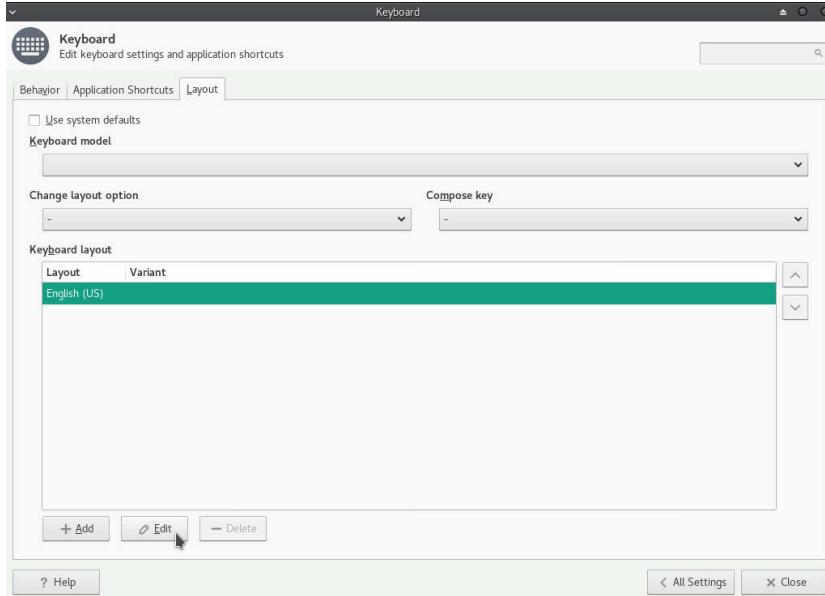
Change the keyboard layout



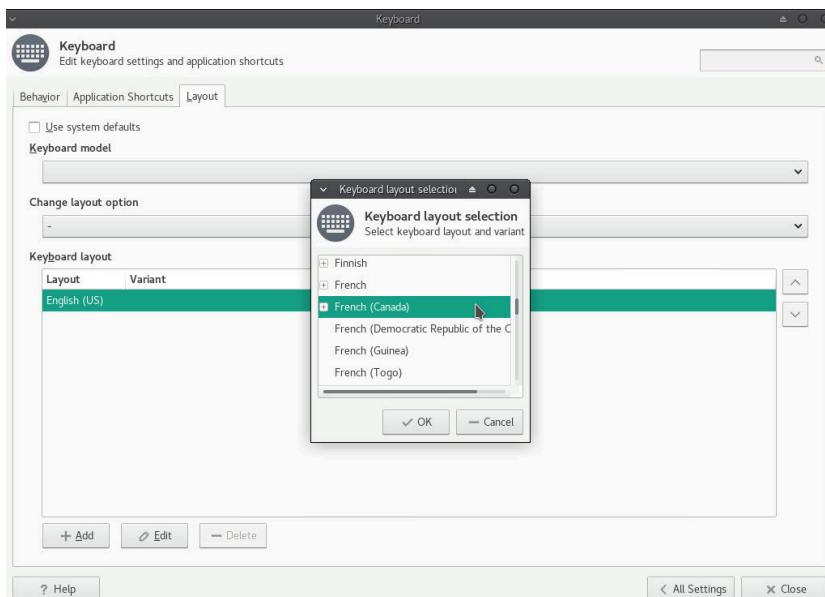
2: The keyboard layout can be changed in the Calamares installer. However, you can also change it in the **Xfce settings**. They can be found through the applications menu.



3: In the window that opens, choose the **Keyboard** settings.



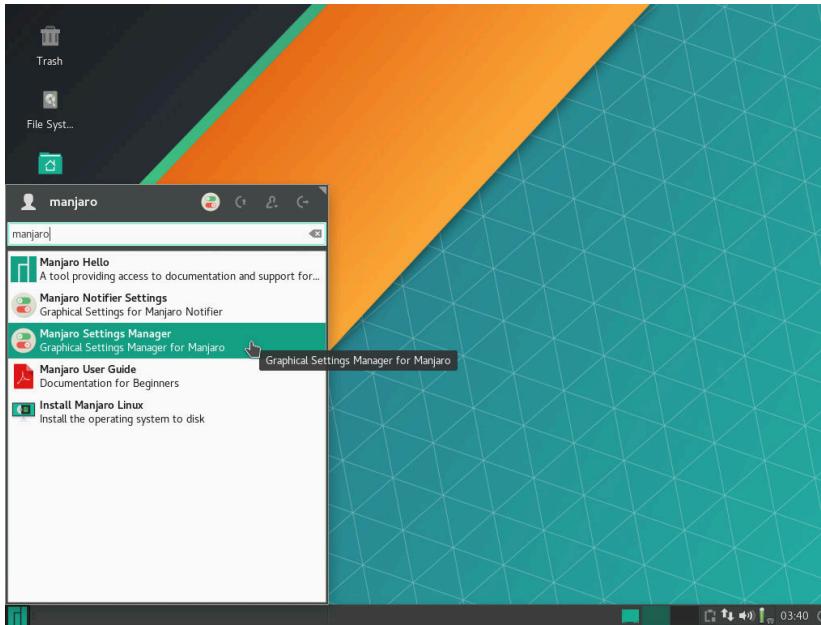
4: Once there, go to the **Layout** tab, select the **English (US)** language and click on **Edit**.



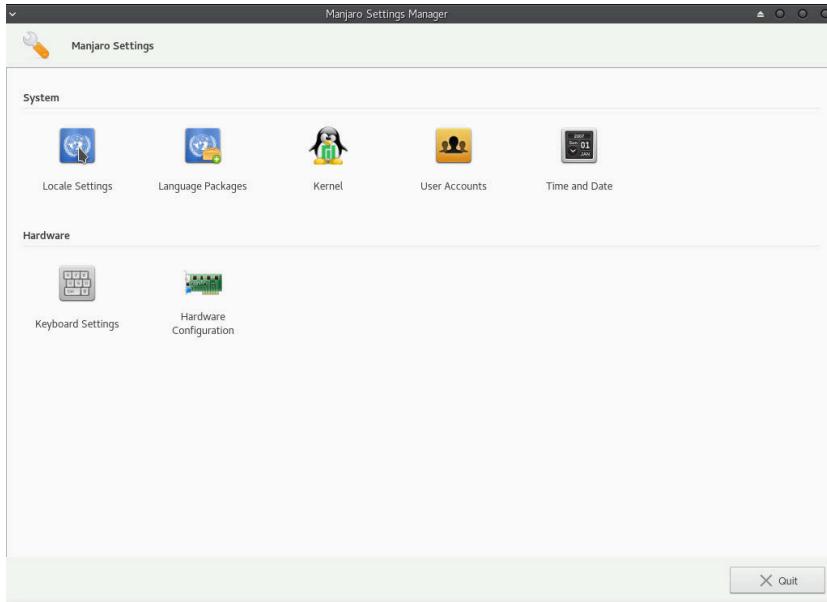
5: Find your language in the list, select it and click **OK**. Once this is done, you can close the window. The layout of your keyboard has been changed!

Change the language of the Live environment

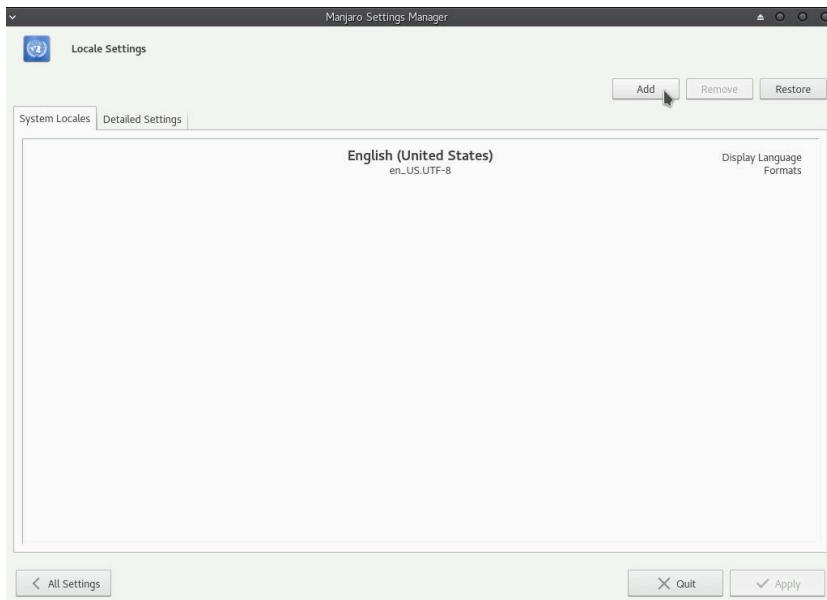
Some more steps are required if you want the Live environment to be in another language than English on a UEFI system. The keyboard layout can be set in the Calamares installer as shown earlier. **Please note that these steps are not required for Manjaro to be installed in another language. They are only useful if you want the Live environment, before installing Manjaro, to be in another language.**



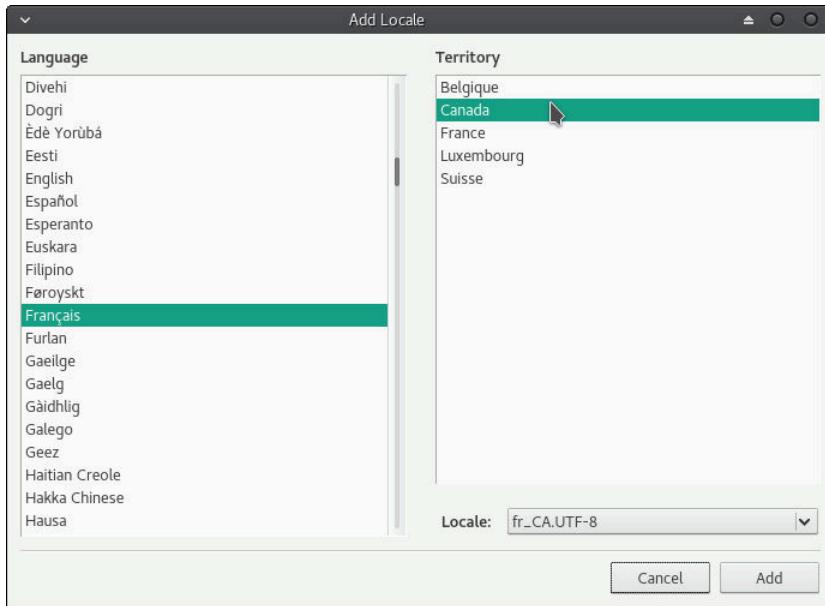
6: In order for the Live environment to be displayed in another language, this language will need to be added in the **Manjaro Settings Manager**. It can be found in the applications menu.



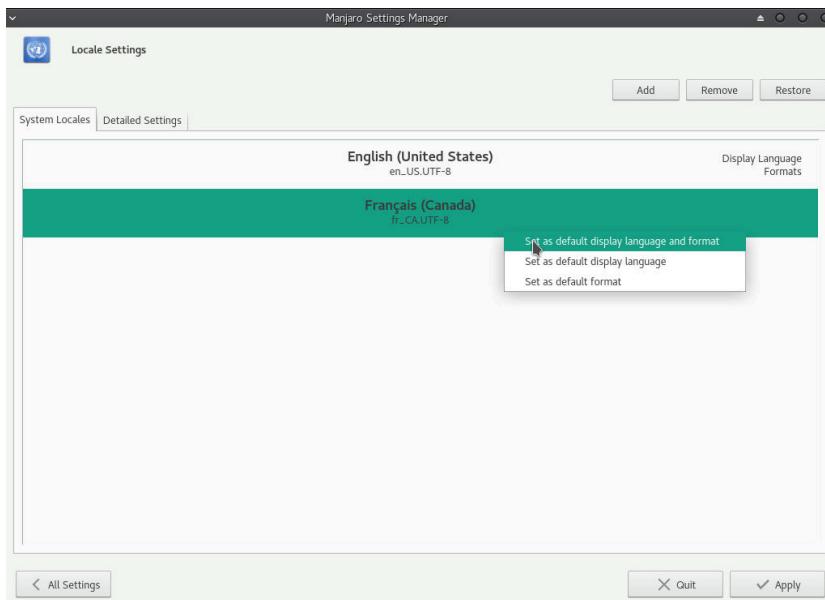
7: Once the Manjaro Settings Manager is launched, click on **Locale Settings**.



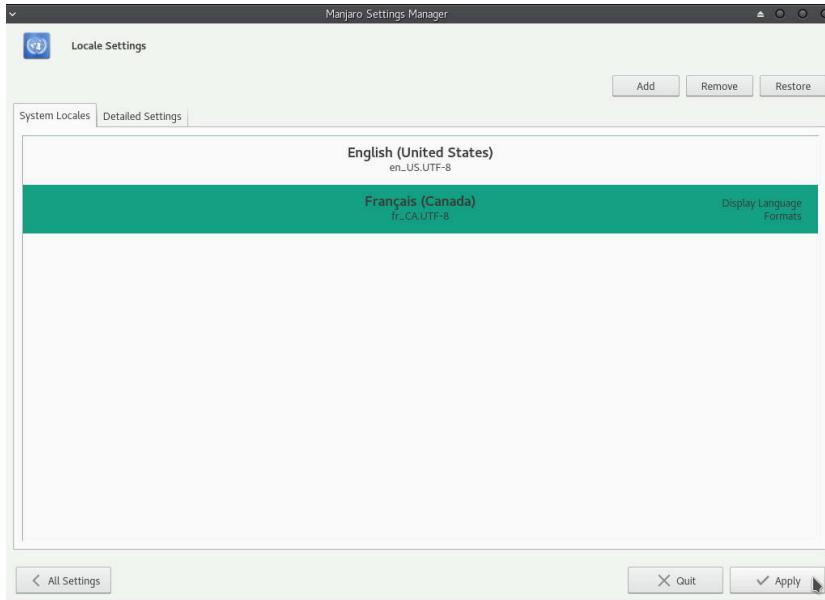
8: A list of installed languages will then be displayed. If the one you want is not listed, click the **Add** button.



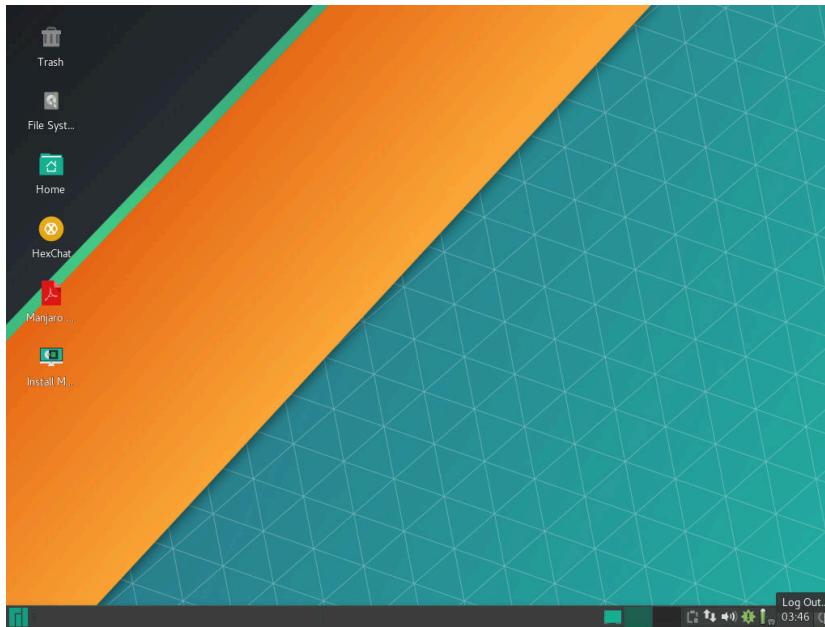
9: Then, select the desired language in the list on the left, and if necessary the appropriate subcategory in the menu on the right. The **Locale** menu allows you to choose the encoding. Once you are satisfied, click **Add**.



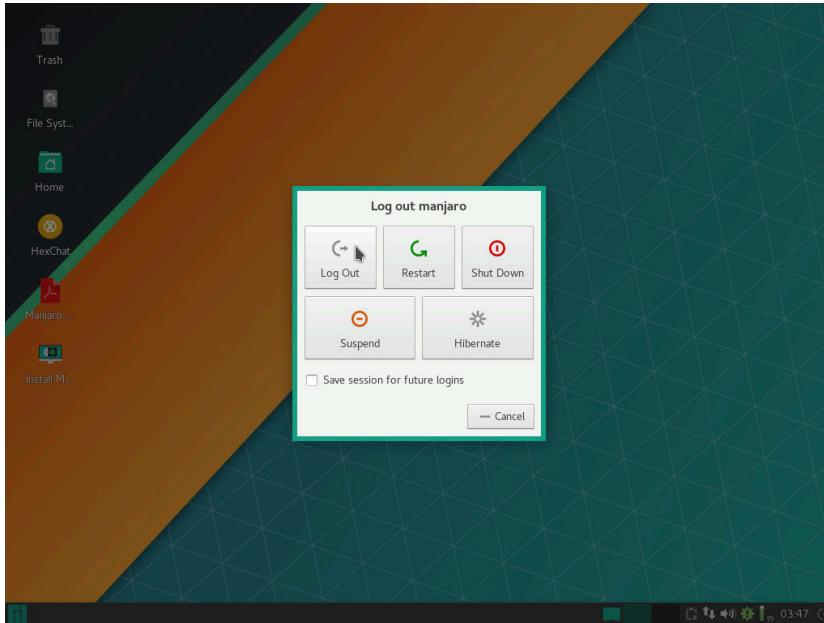
10: The added language will then be in the list. **Right-click** on it and choose **Set as default display language and format**.



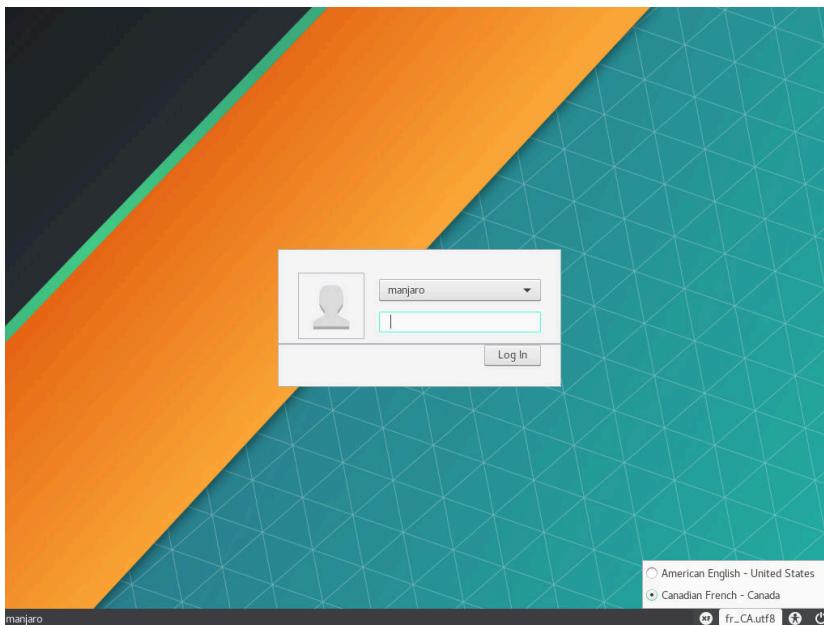
11: Finally, **Apply** these changes. You will be prompted for an administrator password. On the Live CD, the password is “manjaro”. You can now close the window.



12: However, the newly made changes will only take effect in the next desktop session. To log out, click the icon at the bottom right of the screen.



13: Select **Log Out** in the window that pops up.



14: You will then be presented with the Live CD login screen. Click on **en_US.utf8** at the bottom right of the screen and select the language you want to use. You can then log in. The desktop will now be in the new language! On the Live CD, the username and password are both "manjaro".

Differences in the partition setup

The key difference in the way the partitions are arranged compared to the case with BIOS is that a small partition of a few hundred MB must be created to house some of the files used when booting the system. This partition must use the `fat32` file system. Luckily, in all assisted installation options, Calamares handles the creation of this partition if it does not already exist and writes the necessary files to it. If the partition already exists, it is detected and used to write the files.

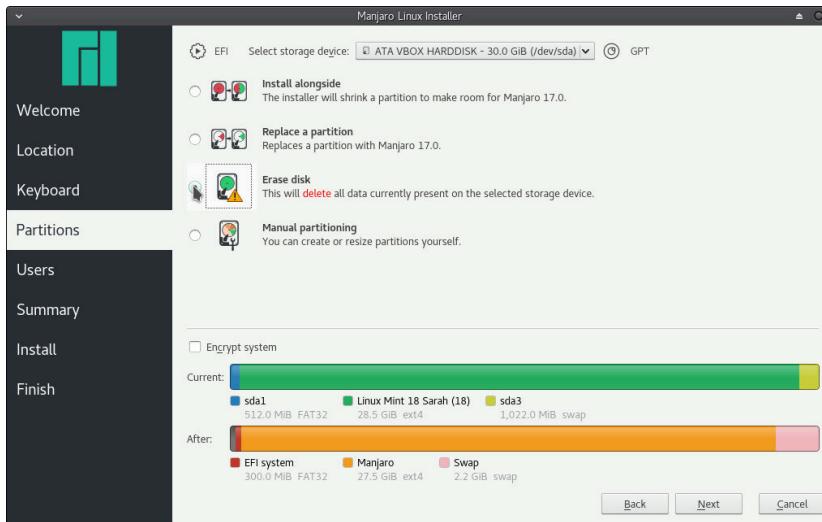


15: Once the Calamares installer is executed, the first noticeable difference compared to the case with a BIOS is at the top of the screen, where EFI is specified instead. In this case, a GPT partition table is also used instead of the MBR partition table more commonly found on BIOS systems. The bottom of the screen displays the current partition scheme, with the sda1 partition storing the files used when booting. No matter which method you choose to install Manjaro, you won't be asked whether you want to install the GRUB boot loader or not. It will be installed automatically.

Assisted installation

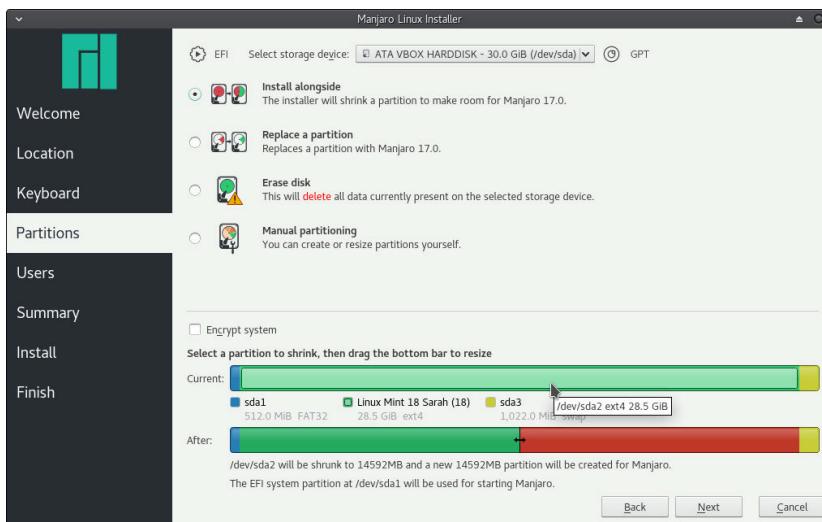
The installation using the three assisted installation options does not change much from the case with a BIOS. Calamares takes care of the differences for you. For specific instructions about dual-booting with Windows, see chapter Dual-booting with Microsoft Windows 10.

Erase disk

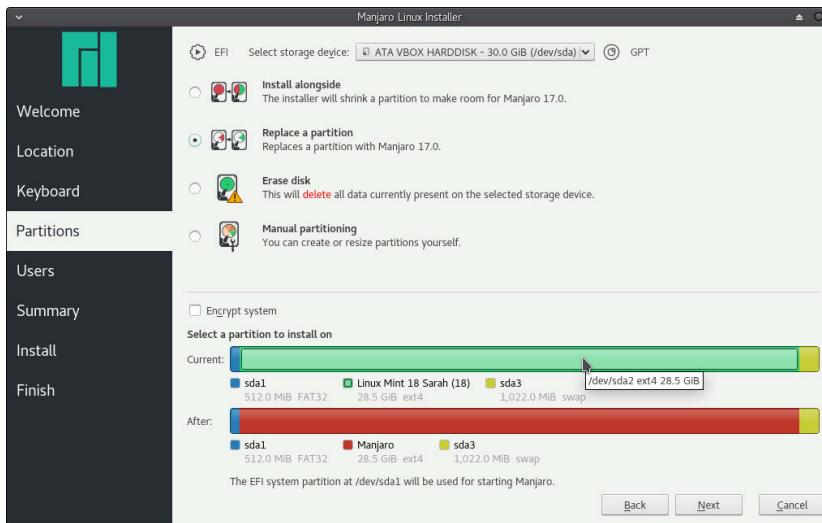


1: The **Erase disk** option suggests a EFI partition at the beginning, a root partition for Manjaro and a swap partition at the end.

Install alongside



2: When selecting the **Install alongside** option and clicking on the partition to shrink, the suggested partition setup will mention if an existing EFI partition was detected.

Replace a partition

3: When selecting the **Replace a partition** option and clicking on the partition to overwrite, the suggested partition setup will also mention if an existing EFI partition was detected.

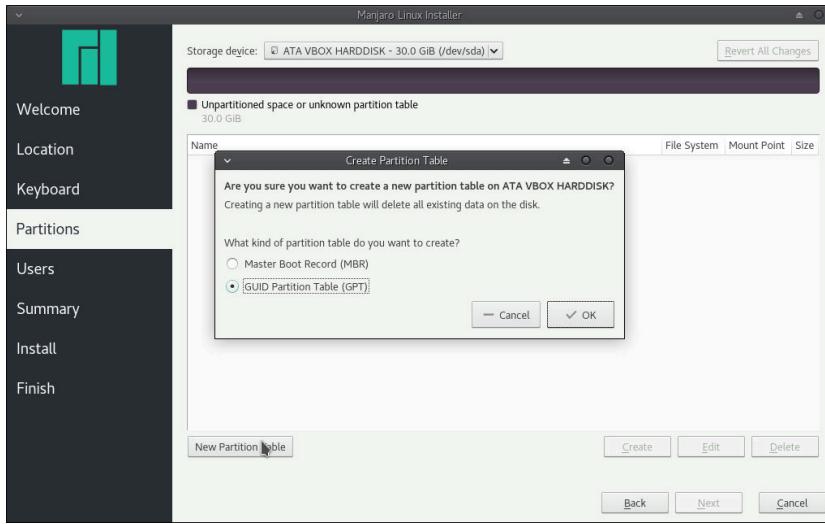
Manual installation on a UEFI system

The manual installation option is the one that changes the most if you are using a UEFI system. The following steps will walk you through the process of creating a partition scheme suitable for your system in three different scenarios. The first one (**Creating partitions from scratch**) will show you how to create your partition scheme from within Calamares without using existing partitions. The second one (**Using GParted to create partitions beforehand**) will show you how to create the partitions with GParted. Finally, the third one (**Using an already existing EFI partition**) will show you how to use previously created partitions during the installation, including a EFI partition used by another operating system. These partitions can have been previously created with GParted.

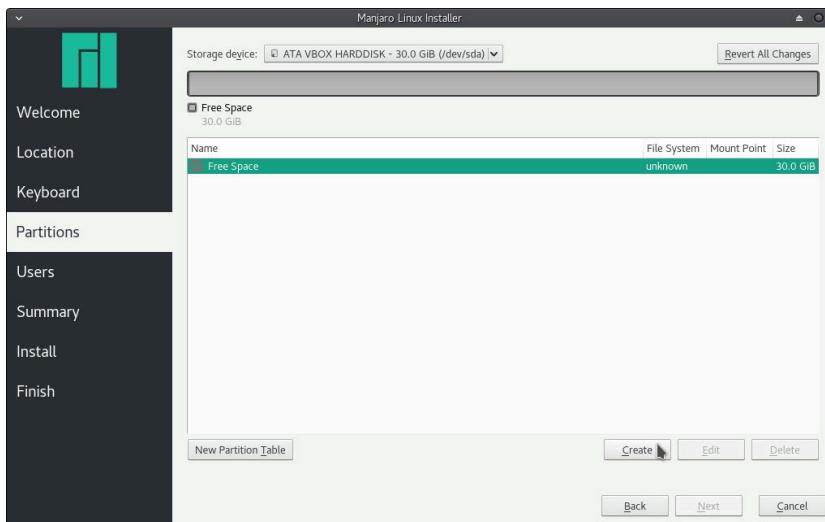
Creating partitions from scratch

This scenario will assume that you do not wish to use a single existing partition. We will thus start with a completely empty hard drive. This will also be the case if you are using a brand new drive or are using a virtual machine.

Create a partition table

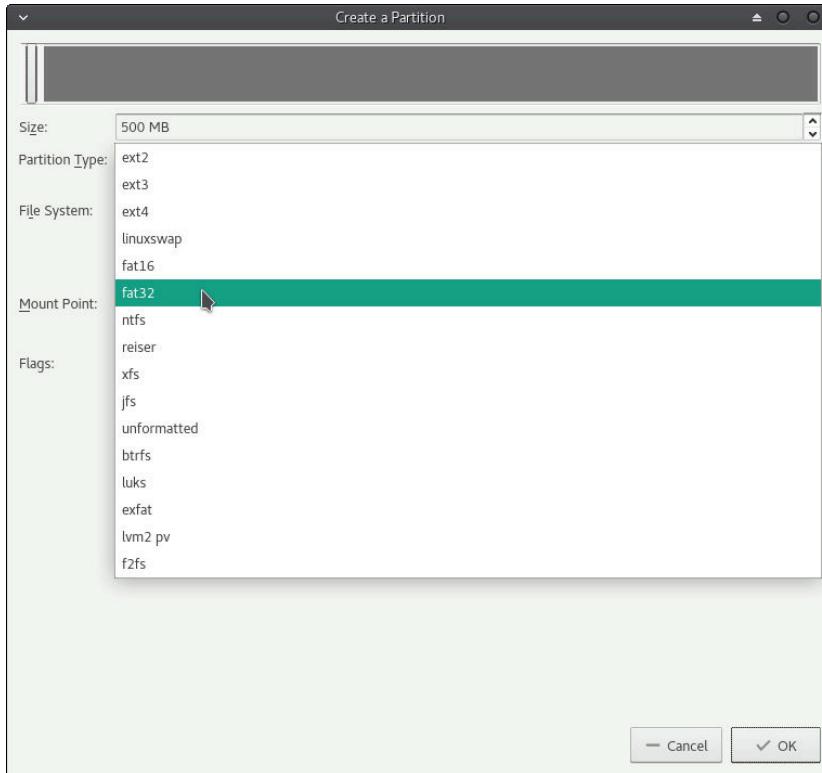


Create the EFI partition

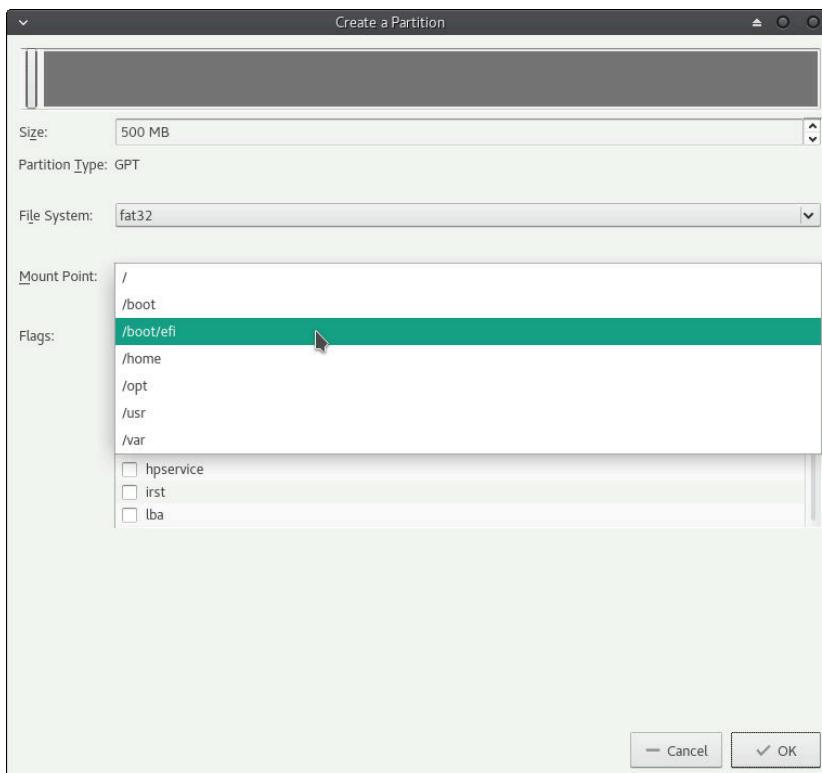


1: Once you select the **Manual partitioning** option and click on **Next**, the first thing to make sure is that the partition table is of type GPT. To create a new partition table, click on the **New Partition Table** button and select **GUID Partition Table (GPT)**. For a refresher on partitions and partition tables, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.

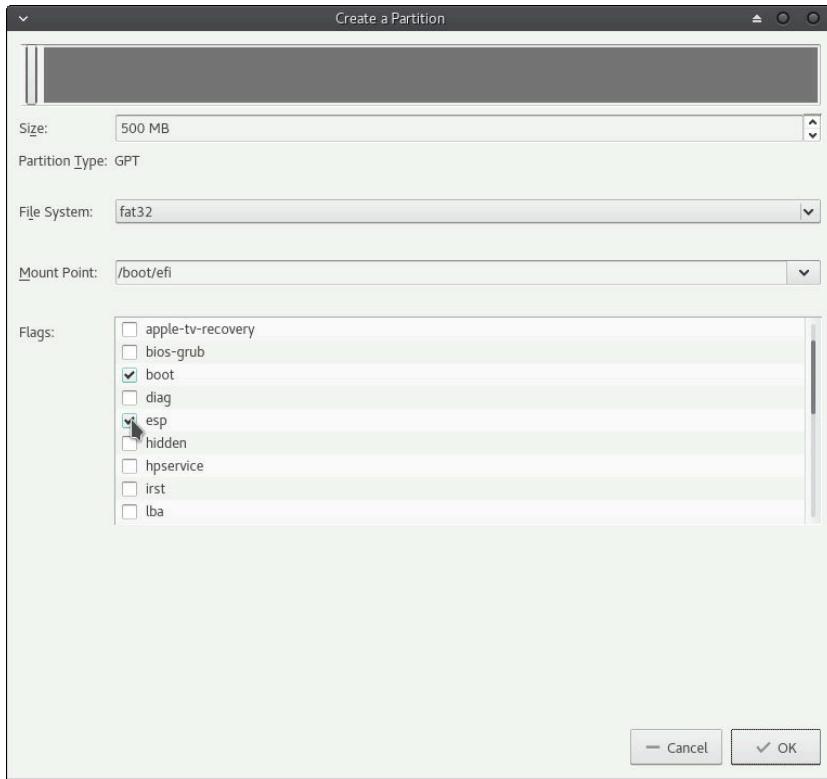
2: Then, select the empty space and click on **Create** to make a new partition. The first one we will create will be the EFI partition, which will house some files used when booting.



3: In the window that appears, select a size of a few hundred MB. Here I chose 500 MB. Then, select **fat32** as the file system. For a refresher on file systems, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.

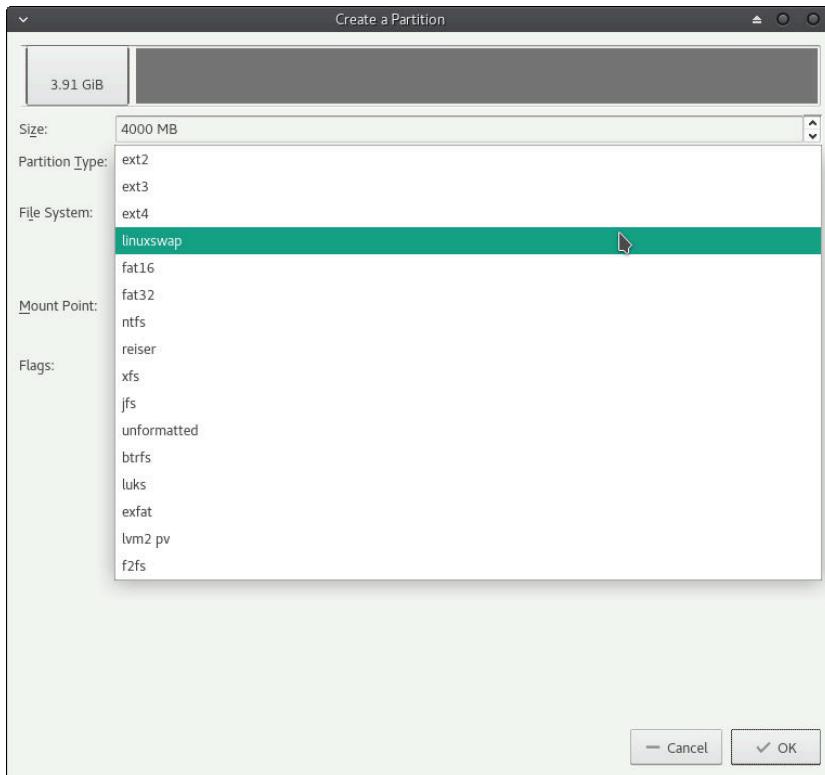


4: Next, choose **/boot/efi** as the mount point. The contents of the partition will be accessible from this directory once Manjaro is installed. Be careful not to accidentally choose **/boot**!

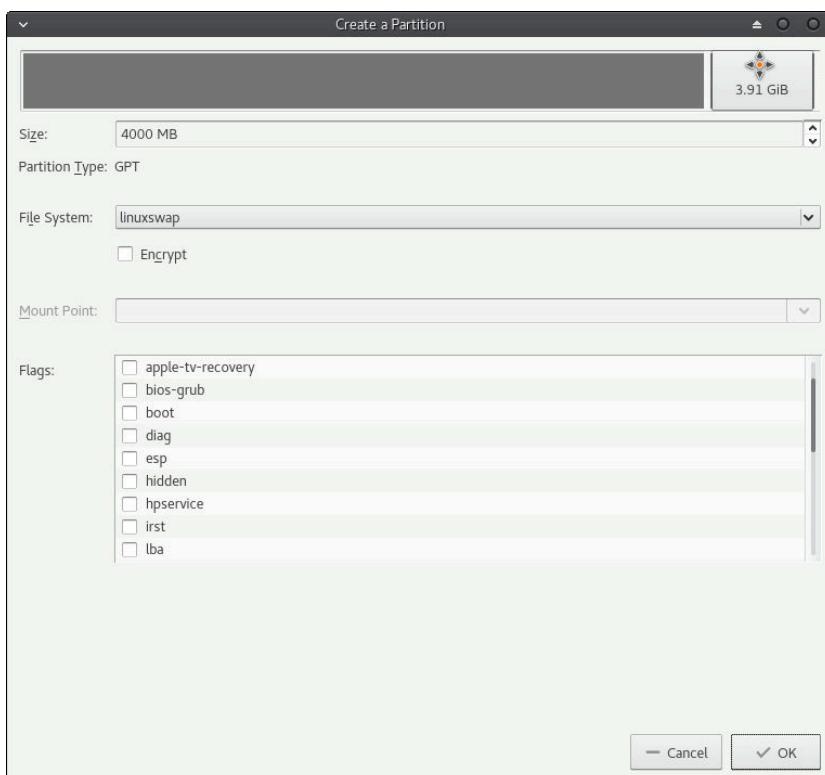


5: Finally, select the **boot** and **esp** flags from the list. Once this is done, click the **OK** button.

Create the swap partition

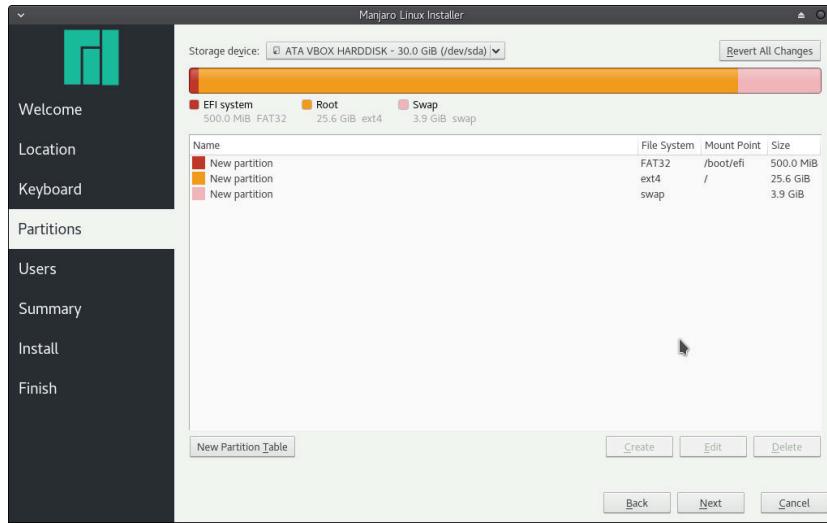


6: The next partition we will create is the swap. This partition will be used if you ever run out of RAM to complete operations. The suggested size for this partition is a few GB. Here I chose 4 GB. Choose **linuxswap** as the file system.



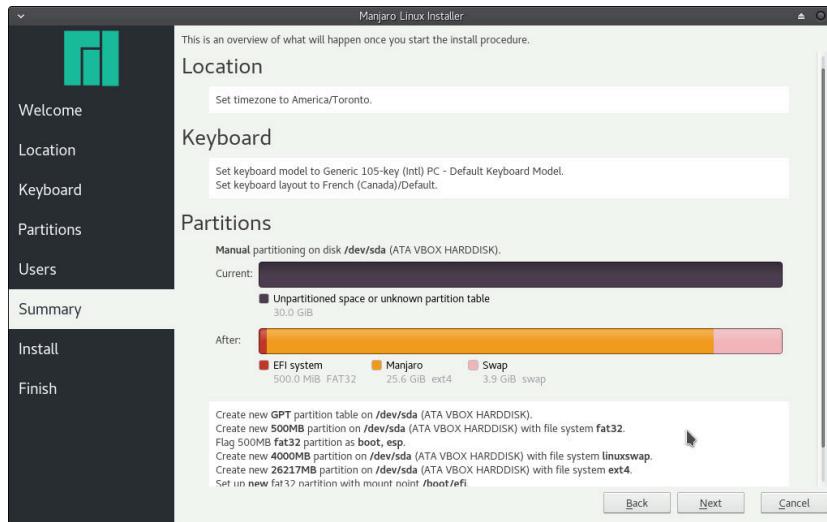
7: You can also click and drag the partition to move it elsewhere in the unallocated space.

Create other partitions



8: Next are the partitions used by Manjaro itself. There are a variety of possible scenarios. Here I chose the simplest case where I only created a single partition mounted under the `/` directory. Another scenario with the `/home` directory being housed on another partition is presented in chapter **Manual installation on a BIOS system**.

Look back and confirm

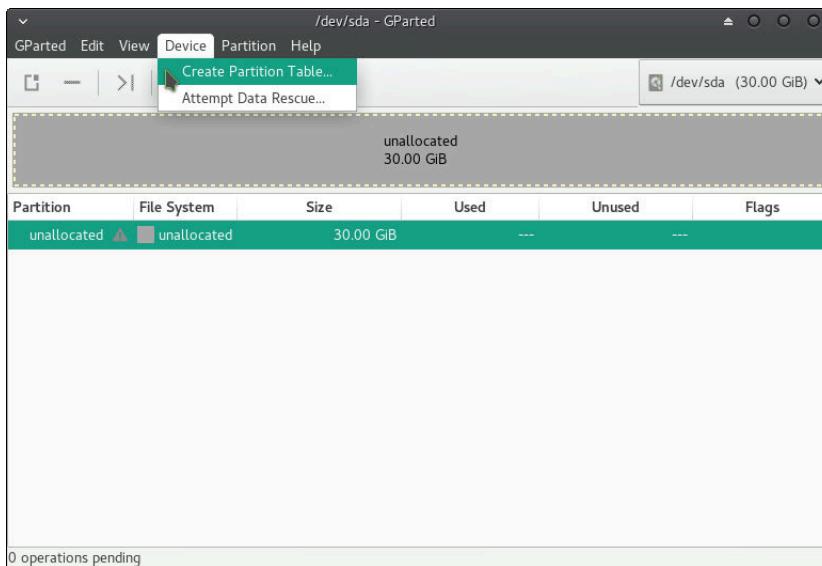


9: You can then proceed as usual up to the summary, which is the last step before the changes are applied to your drive.

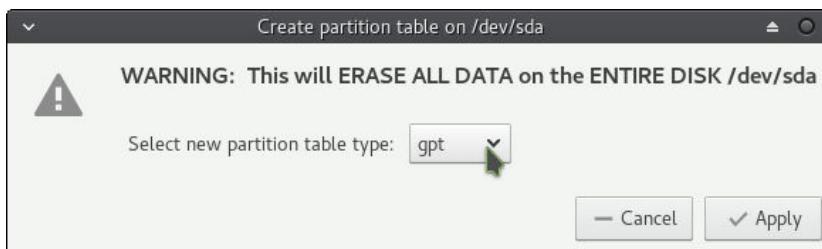
Using GParted to create partitions beforehand

The creation of the partition table and partitions shown above can also be handled by GParted. The following steps will guide you through the process.

Create a partition table

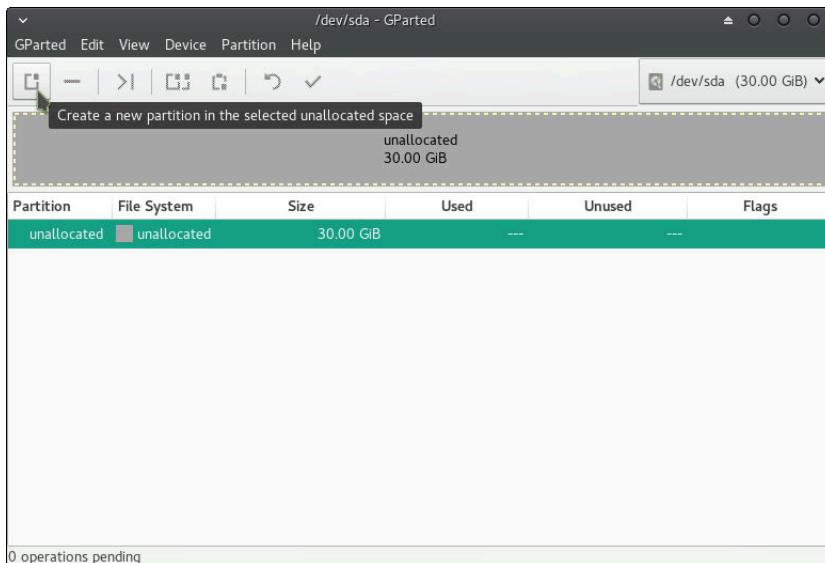


1: To create a new partition table, select **Device** > **Create Partition Table...** .

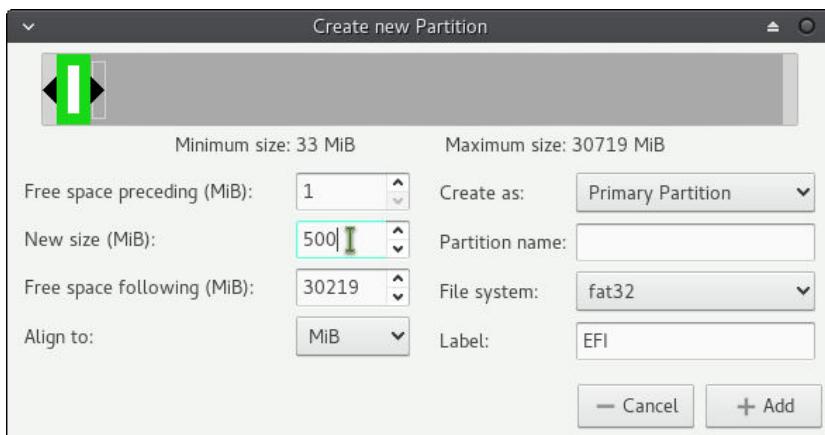


2: In the window that pops up you can then choose the type of partition table to be created. For a UEFI system, a **GPT** partition table is recommended. For a refresher on partitions and partition tables, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.

Create the EFI partition

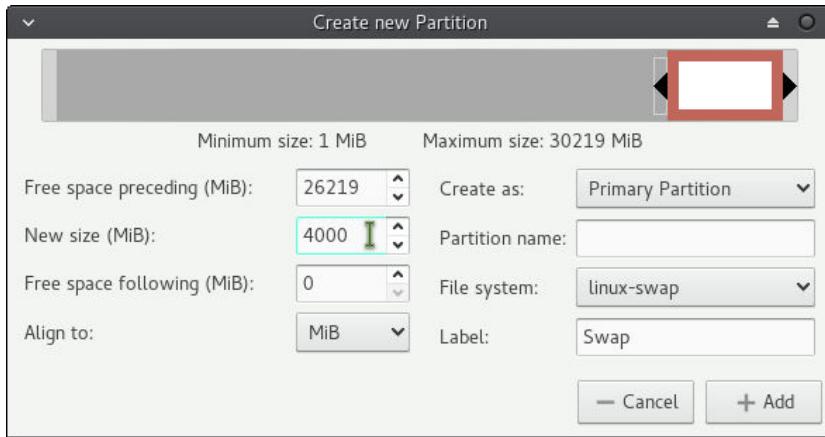


3: Once this is done, select the unallocated space and click on the first button at the top-left of the window to create a new partition. The first one we will create is the EFI partition.



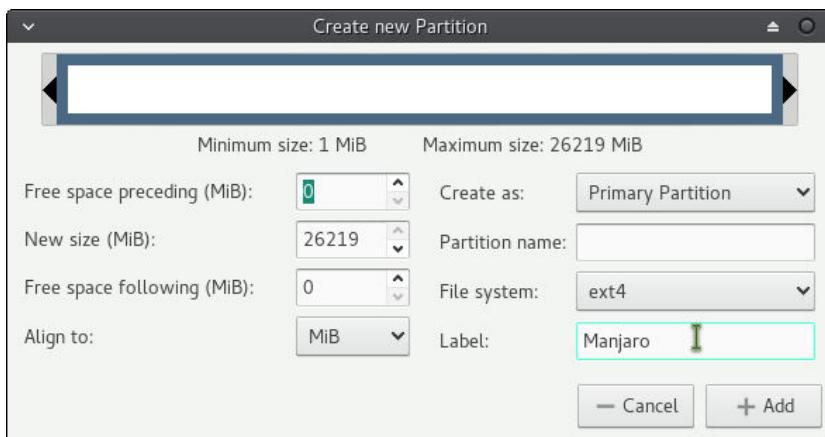
4: Like in the case where Calamares was used to create the partitions, it is recommended to choose a size of a few hundred MB. You may notice that GParted uses a different unit for the size of the partitions, namely MiB. MiB are not the same as MB, but close enough for what we want to do. It is necessary to use the **fat32** file system. You can also set a label to make the partition easier to recognize. For a refresher on file systems, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.

Create the swap partition



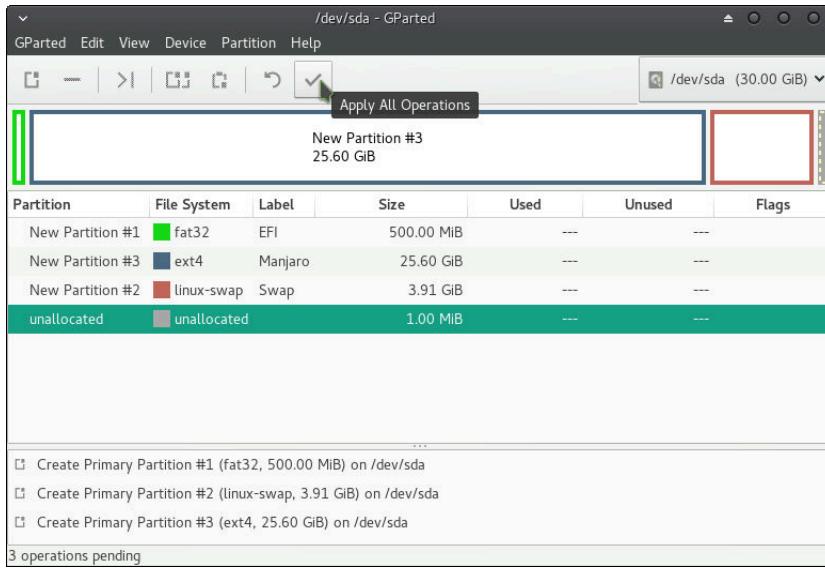
5: Next, select the rest of the empty space and create a new partition. This one will be the swap. This partition will be used if you ever run out of RAM to complete operations. It is recommended to choose a size of a few GB. It is necessary to use the **linux-swap** file system. You can click and drag the partition to move it elsewhere in the unallocated space.

Create other partitions

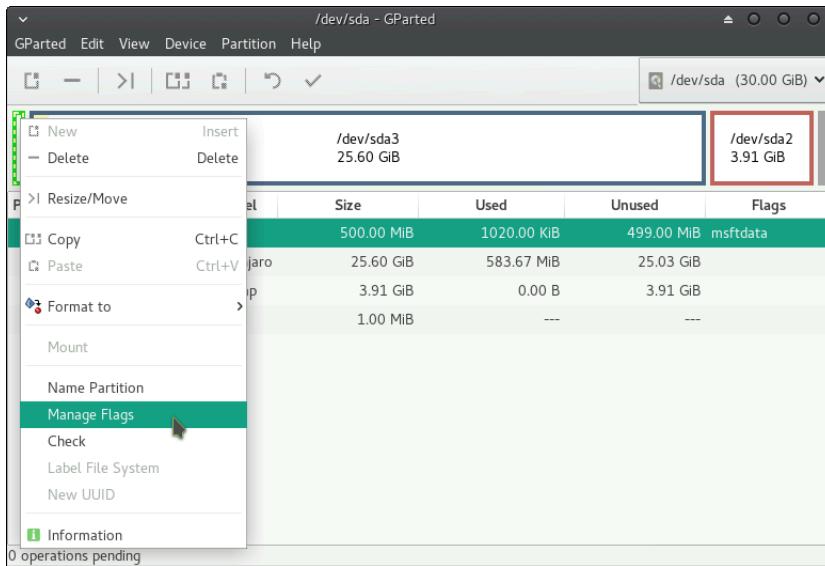


6: Finally, create the partitions that will be used by Manjaro. Here I chose to make a single one that will later be mounted under the `/` directory. I chose the **ext4** file system, although others such as xfs and btrfs are available.

Apply changes

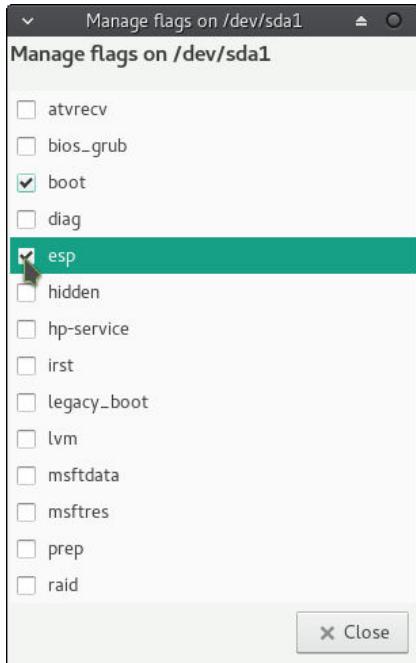


Set the flags for the EFI partition

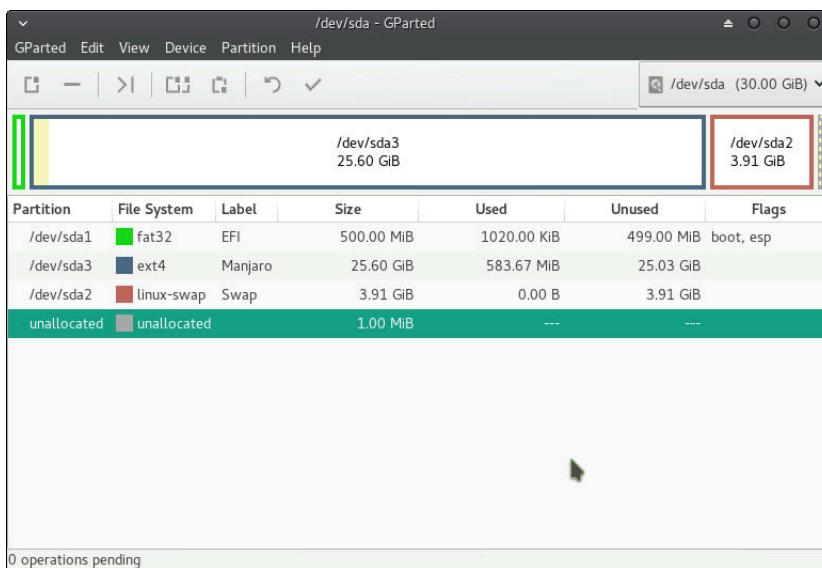


7: It is finally time to apply the changes! Make sure everything is to your liking and then click the checkmark button.

8: A bit more work is required once the operations have been successfully completed. A few flags then need to be set so the EFI partition behaves correctly. **Right-click** on the partition you intend to use as the EFI partition and select **Manage Flags** from the drop-down menu.



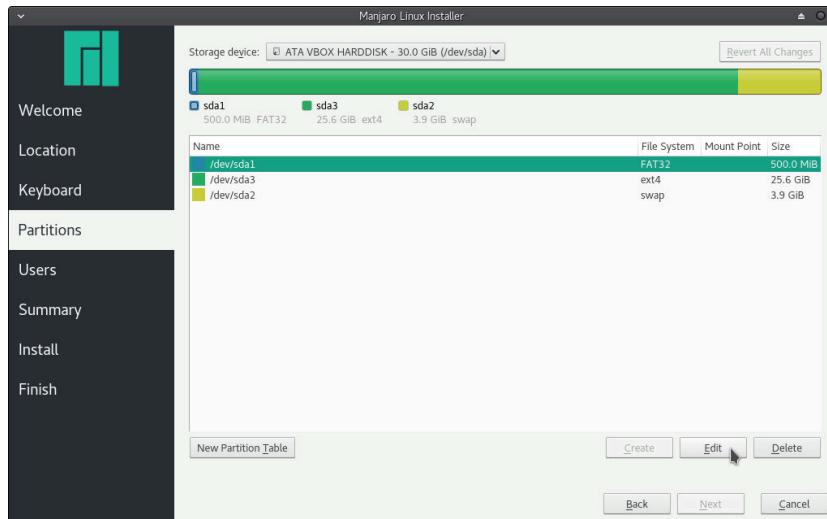
9: In the window that appears, select **boot** and **esp**. Close the window once this is done.



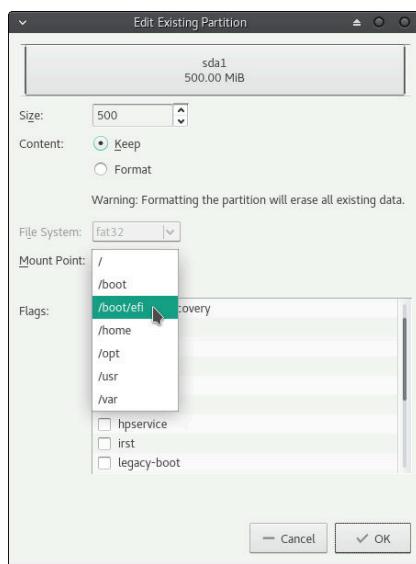
10: That's it! Your partitions are all set up! It is now time to put them to use in the installer.

Using an already existing EFI partition

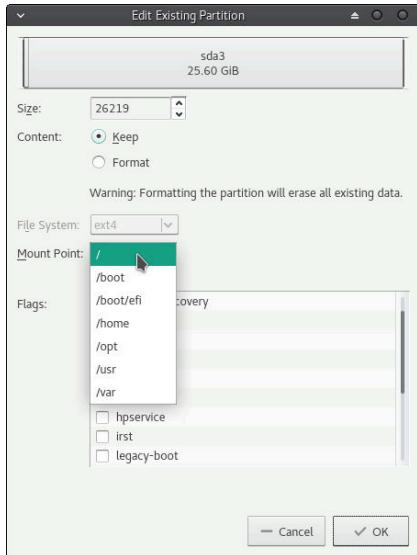
You may want to consider this scenario is you prepared partitions beforehand with a tool like GParted or if you are dual-booting with another operating system. In the later case, you will probably want to use the same EFI partition for Manjaro and the other operating system.



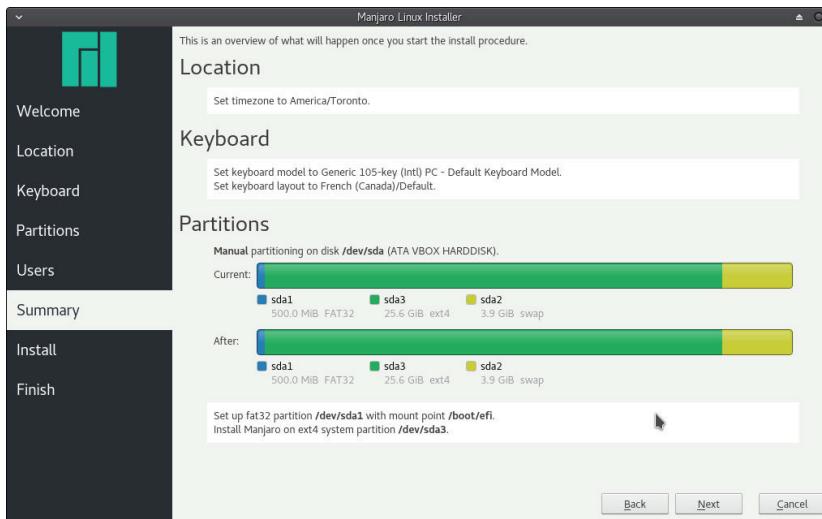
1: Once in the **Manual partitioning** option and click **Next**, select the partition you want as the EFI partition and click on the **Edit** button.



2: In the window that appears, choose to mount the partition under **/boot/efi**. You also have the option to either keep the contents of the partition or format it. **Keeping them is especially important when dual-booting with another operating system.** That way, the Calamares installer will write the files necessary for booting Manjaro alongside those of the other operating system. Also, make sure the **boot** and **esp** flags are checked.



3: Next, select the other partitions you want to use and choose their respective mount points. If you want to dual-boot, you may want to shrink an existing partition and create partitions for Manjaro as illustrated in chapter **Manual installation on a BIOS system**.



4: Once everything is set up, you can proceed up to the summary. As always, this is the very last step where you can go back to make changes. Once you click the **Next** button, the modifications will be applied to your drive and the actual installation will begin.

Dual-booting with Microsoft Windows 10

The screenshots in chapter Assisted installation on a UEFI system used Linux Mint as the already installed operating system. However, the partition scheme used by Windows is a bit different from the one typically used by Linux. This section focuses on the differences in the installation steps between the two cases.

Download the installation media

First, make sure you have downloaded a 64-bit version of Manjaro. It doesn't matter which edition you choose, but the filename must end with **x86_64.iso**.

Next, create the Live media by burning the disc image to a DVD or writing to a USB flash drive. The process is very similar to a non-UEFI installation. For Windows users using USB media, Rufus¹⁰ is highly recommended. Rufus should use the following settings:

Device: "choose your USB" (Attention: choose correctly, the device selected here will be formatted!)

Partition scheme: GPT partition scheme for UEFI

File system: FAT32 (Default)

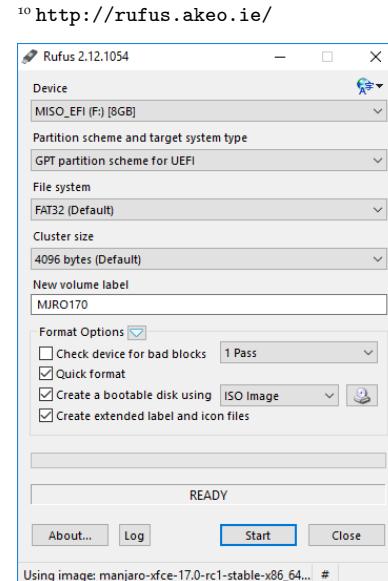
Cluster size: 4096 bytes (Default)

Volume label: MJRO1610

Format Options: Quick format. Create a bootable disk using ISO Image (Click on the DVD icon to select your downloaded disc image). Create extended label and icon files.

Click **Start**, and you are done! (though it takes between around two and five minutes to complete).

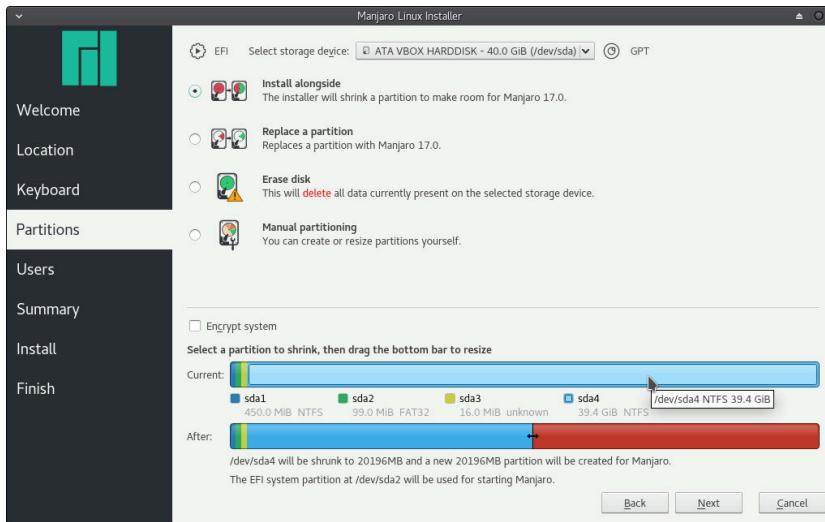
Once you are done, restart your computer and boot on the USB key as was explained earlier in chapter Assisted installation on a UEFI system.



1: Rufus with recommended settings

Assisted installation

The assisted installation options do a good job of setting everything up. If you do not wish to bother yourself creating everything manually, you can rely on Calamares to do the dirty work for you!

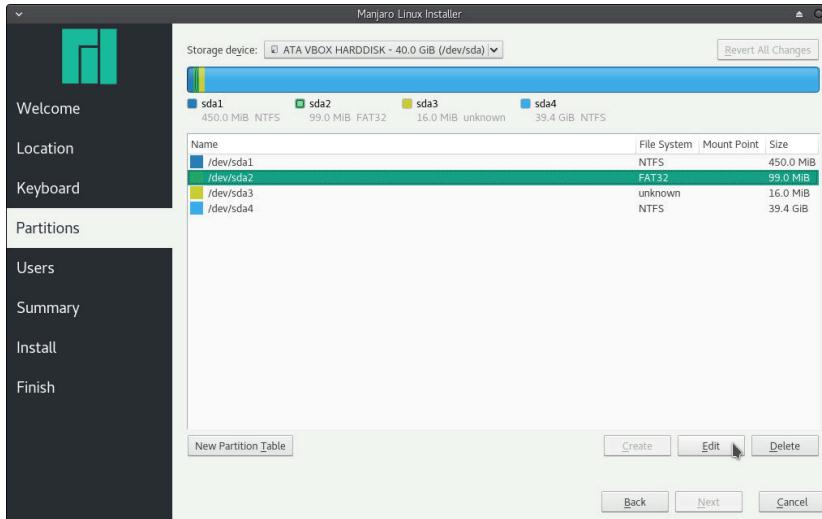


Manual installation

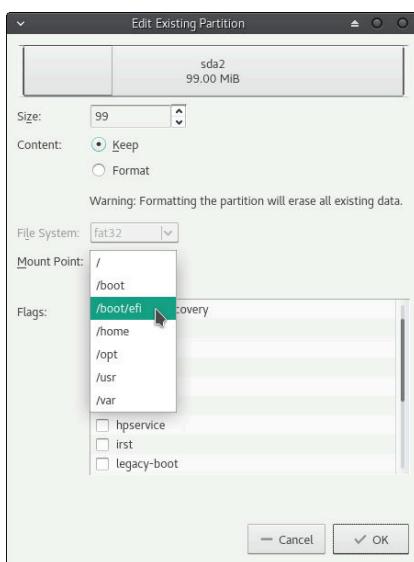
This can also be done in the manual partitioning option. The steps below are very similar to the ones presented in other sections such as **Manual installation on a BIOS system** and **Creating partitions from scratch**.

Choose the EFI partition

2: Using the assisted installation option to install Manjaro alongside Windows, select the partition used as the C: drive by Windows. It should be the biggest one. Then, move the slider as explained in section **Install alongside an existing operating system** to increase or decrease the size of the partition that will be created for Manjaro. The Windows EFI partition is detected automatically. For a refresher on partitions and partition tables, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.

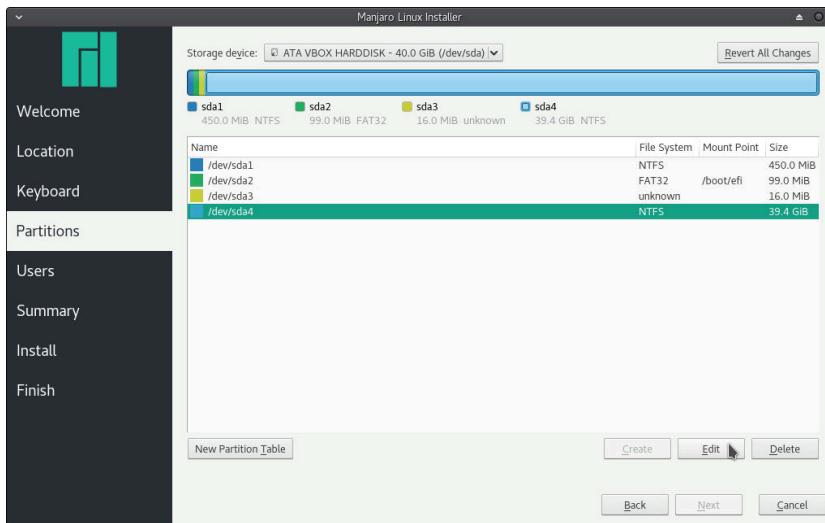


3: The EFI partition created and used by Windows can also be used by Manjaro. Select the EFI partition that was created by Windows and **Edit** it. It should be the only one using the **fat32** file system. For a refresher on file systems, see chapter **Some useful definitions**.

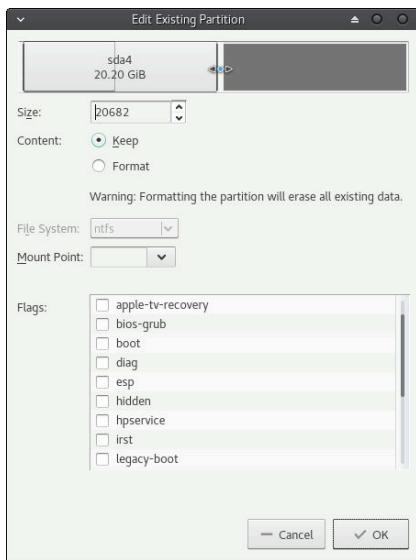


4: Choose to **Keep** the content of the partition. This will make sure that the files used by Windows are not deleted. If you choose to format it, you will not be able to boot into Windows anymore, so keeping its content is very important. Then, select **/boot/efi** as the mount point and make sure the **boot** and **esp** flags are checked. The mount point indicates from which directory the partition will be accessible once Manjaro is installed.

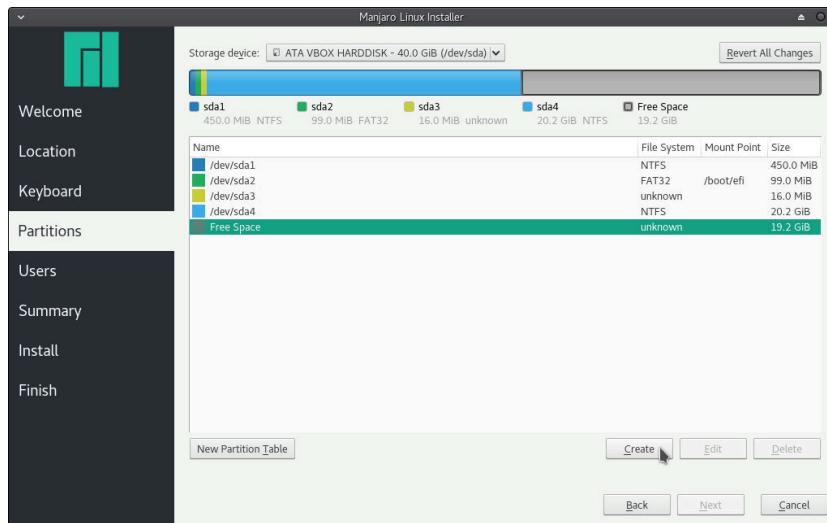
Shrink the C: drive partition



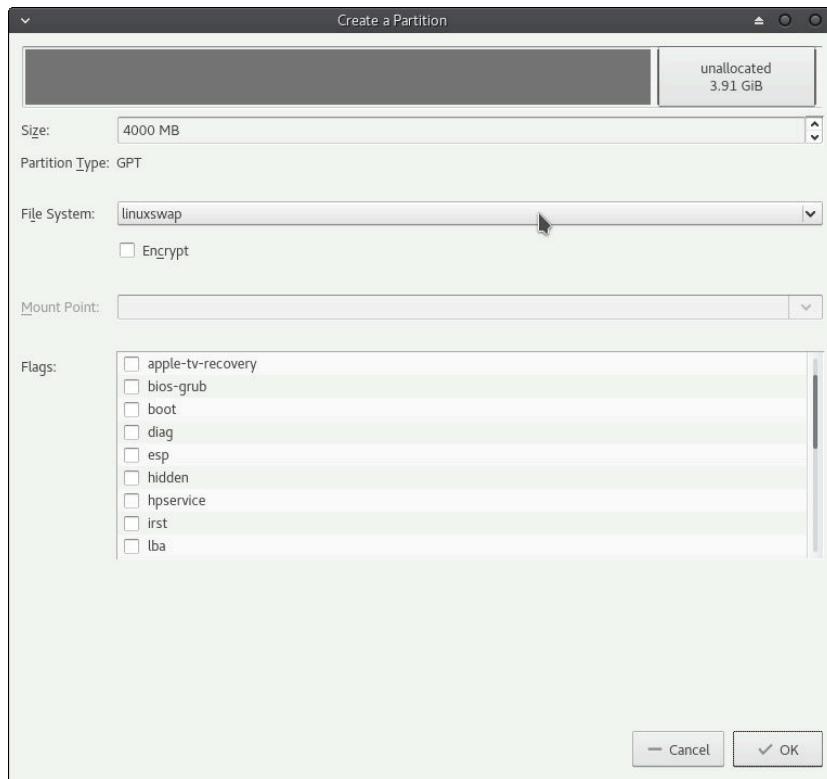
5: Like in the previous section, but this time using the manual partitioning option, select the partition used as the C: drive by Windows and **Edit** it. As previously stated, it should be the biggest one.



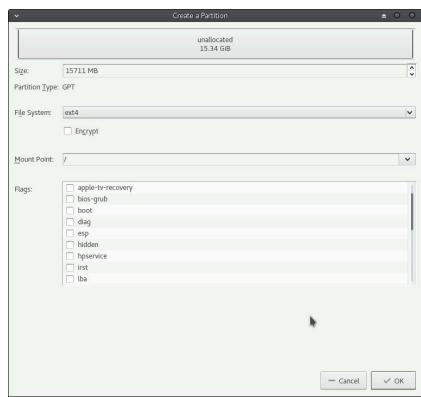
6: Then, use the slider at the top of the window that pops up to reduce its size. The left part of the bar with a slight 3D effect represents the portion of the partition that contains data. You cannot shrink the partition below this threshold.

Create a swap partition

7: Next, select the freed space and click on **Create**.



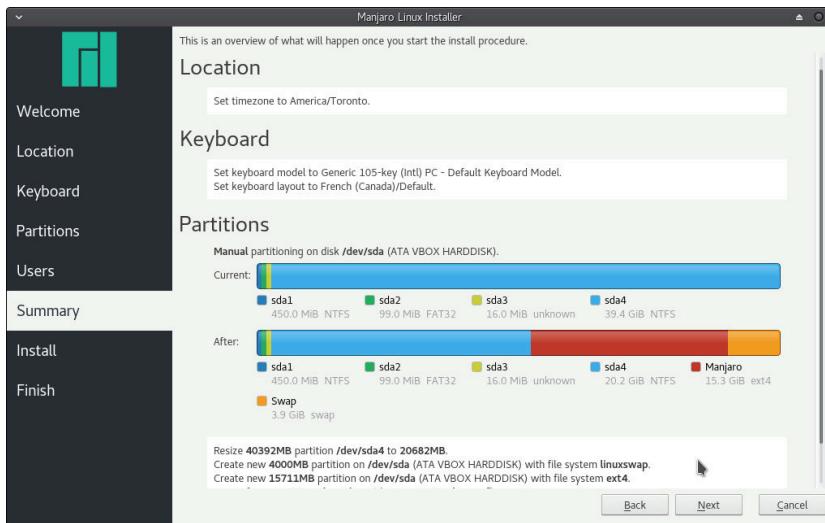
Create the other partitions



8: We will now create a swap partition, which is used if your computer runs out of RAM. It is generally a few GB large and uses the **linuxswap** file system. You do not need to mount it.

9: Now you can create some new partitions for Manjaro! Here I chose the simplest partition scheme, as I created a single partition mounted as `/` and with the `ext4` file system. No matter the partition scheme you choose, there must be one partition mounted under `/`. The rest is up to you.

Look back and confirm



10: You can then continue through the rest of the installer up until the summary. As always, this is your very last chance to review the changes you are about to make. If you are satisfied with them, you can click **Next** and proceed with the installation!

Update the GRUB boot loader, or “Where did Windows go?”

Sometimes the boot loader GRUB2 does not detect an existing Microsoft Windows installation when installing. This means that only Manjaro Linux will appear in the list of installed operating systems when you boot the machine.

To solve this problem, run the command:

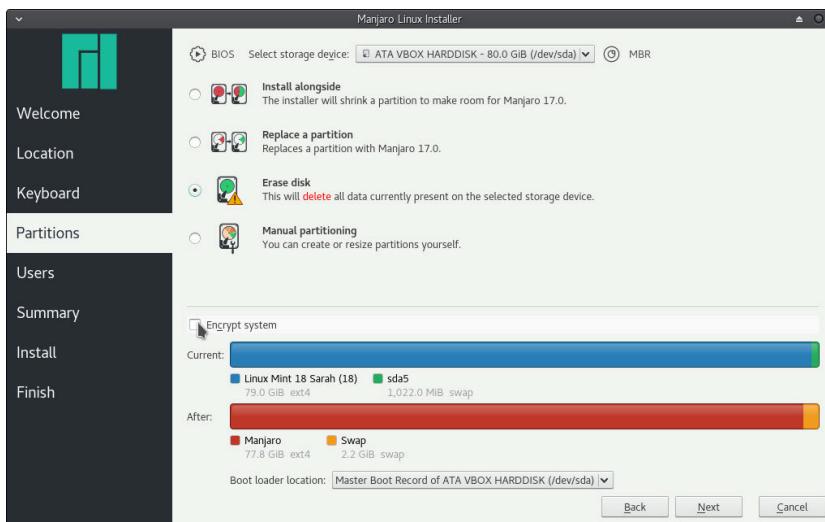
```
sudo update-grub
```

in a terminal after booting into Manjaro and it will detect Windows and add an entry to the boot menu.

Encrypting your partitions

In order to prevent others from accessing the data stored on your drive, you may want to encrypt your partitions. LUKS (*Linux Unified Key Setup*) is a tool developed to that end. Luckily, the Calamares installer has built-in support for LUKS, which makes encrypting your system a breeze! To access the data stored on the drive, a passphrase of your choosing will have to be given. Anyone who does not know it will be unable to access the data. The process of encrypting your system is very similar on both BIOS and UEFI systems. A BIOS system is used below as an example.

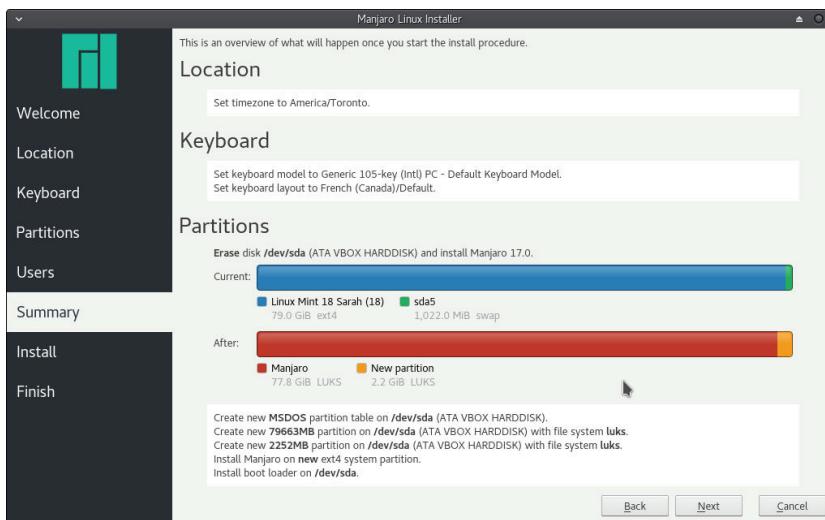
Assisted installation



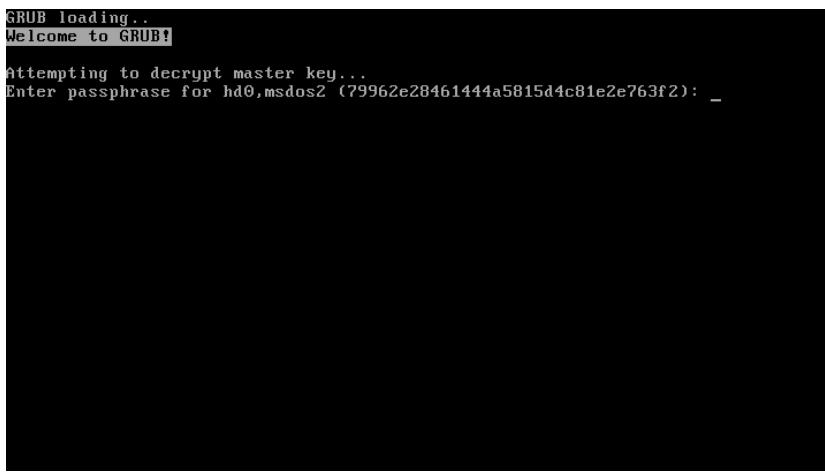
11: In all assisted installation options (*Install alongside*, *Replace a partition* and *Erase disk*), a checkbox above the two status bars enables you to automatically encrypt your system during the installation. Tick it to enable encryption.



12: You will then be asked for the passphrase you want to use. You will be prompted for this passphrase every time you boot your computer, before reaching the GRUB menu. Be sure to choose something you will remember!

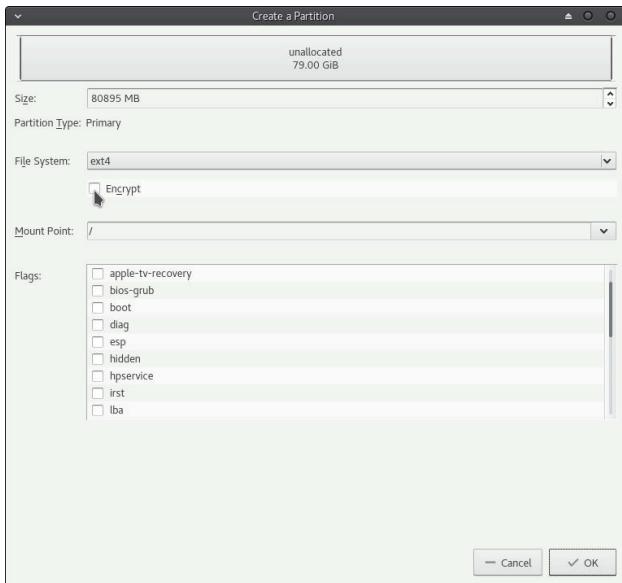


13: The rest of the installation is the same as in all the other cases. The summary at the end confirms that your new installation will use LUKS encryption!

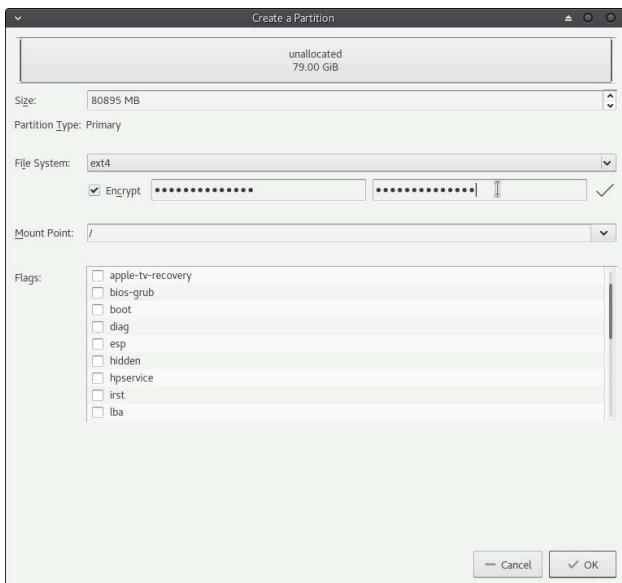


14: When booting, a prompt will appear asking for your passphrase. Characters won't show up when typed, so don't be surprised! If the correct passphrase is entered, you will be redirected to the GRUB menu. Otherwise, you will be unable to access your system. You are given a single try every time you boot up your computer.

Manual installation



15: In the manual installation option, encryption can be set up when creating a partition. A checkbox will offer it to you, just below the *File System* menu.



16: When ticking the box, you will be asked to enter a passphrase. You will be prompted for it everytime you boot up your computer, much like in the assisted installation options.

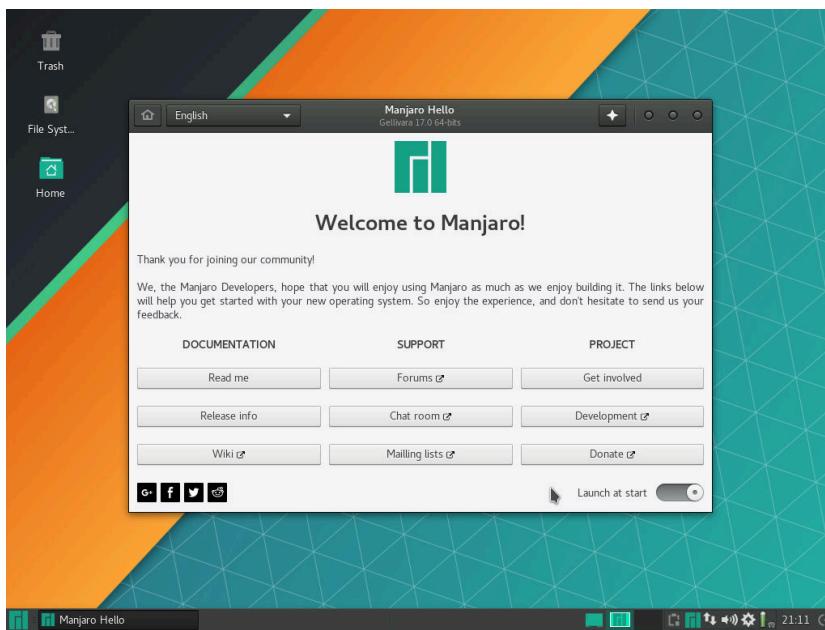
Part III

Welcome to Manjaro

The Manjaro desktop

Congratulations on installing Manjaro Linux!

Once you have logged in you will be presented with the Manjaro desktop. The Manjaro Hello welcome screen will load automatically and this gives you some useful links to documentation, ways to get help and support from the Manjaro community, and some ways you can get involved with the project. Remember that Manjaro is free and open-source software: it relies on contributions from its user and developer community!

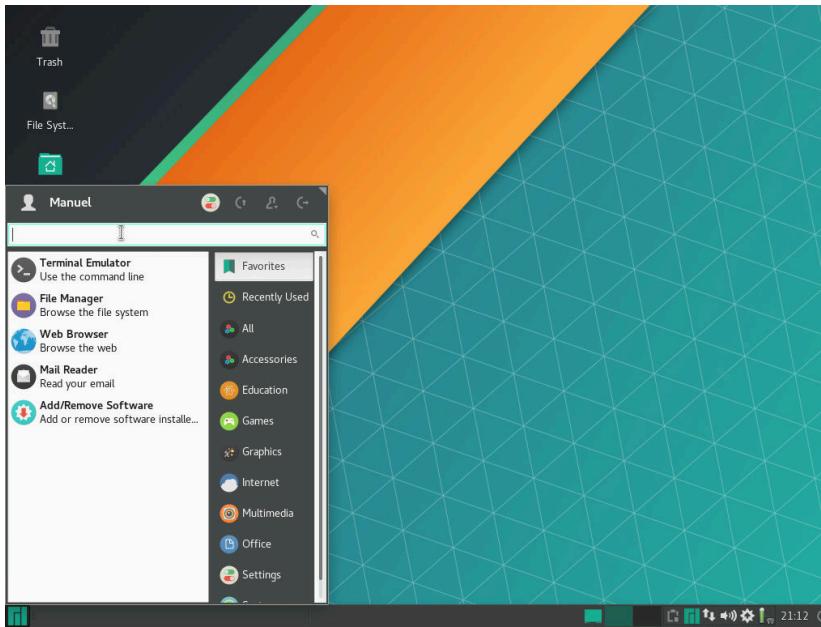


1: The Manjaro Xfce Desktop with Manjaro Hello.

If you don't want the welcome screen to load each time you log in, just set the **Launch at start** option off at the bottom right of the window. Don't worry: you can always find it again in the applications menu.

The applications menu is the easiest way of starting the software programs that are installed on your Manjaro system. The icon for this

is at the bottom left corner of the screen. Go ahead and click on it now!

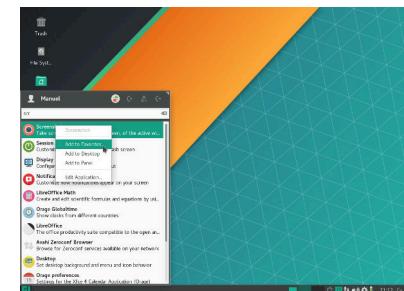


You can see that the five main software applications have an item in the “Favourites” menu. This allows rapid access to software you most often use. To add or remove an item from the Favourites menu, just right-click on it and select the option you want.

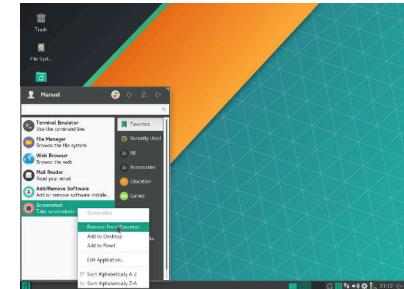
For now, let's look in turn at these five applications to give an idea of what awaits you!

You can also press the “Windows” or “Super” key on your keyboard. Handy!

2: Software applications that are installed will be displayed in the applications menu.

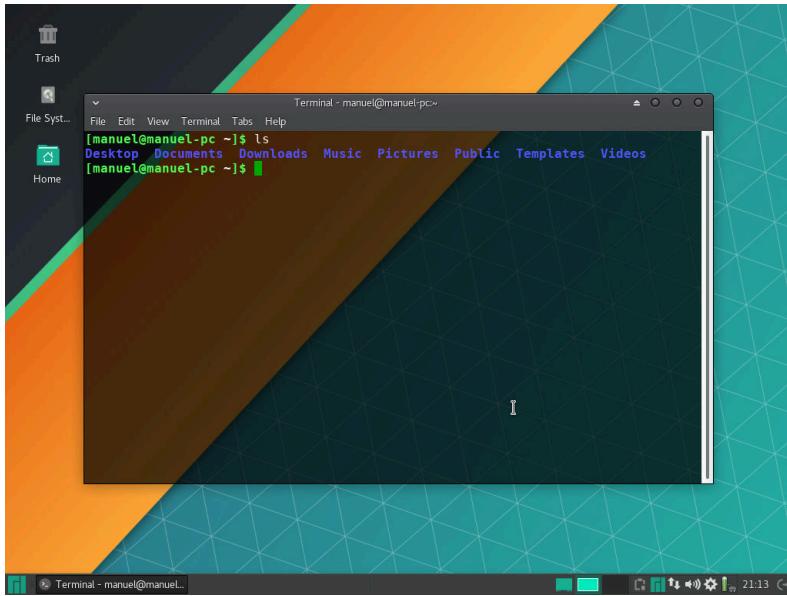


3: Add to Favourites

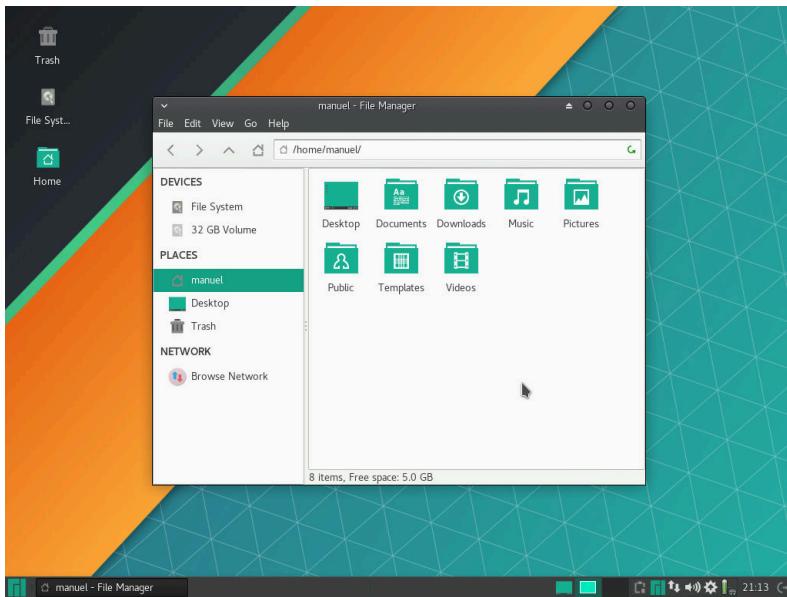


4: Remove from Favourites

Terminal Emulator



File Manager

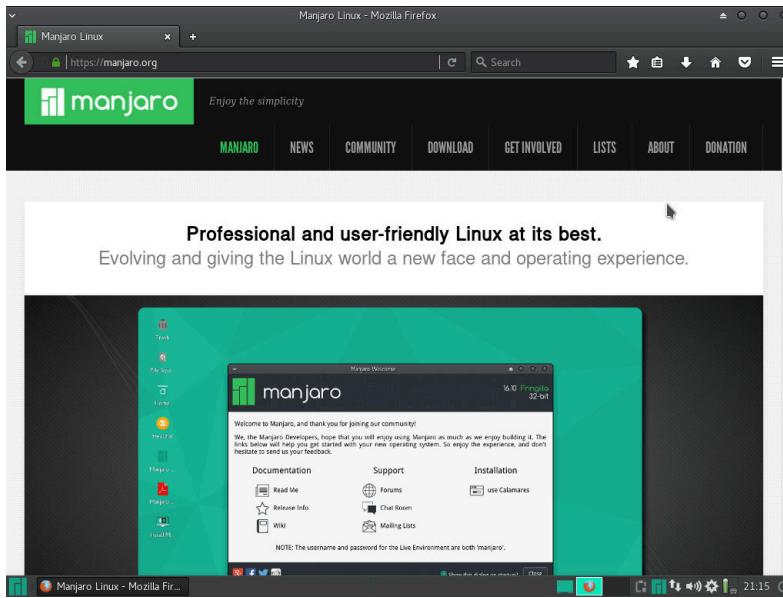


5: **Terminal Emulator**, or terminal, allows you to perform text-based commands. Although it initially seems unfriendly it is incredibly powerful and allows access to commands that are difficult to accomplish with a graphical interface. In this example, I have listed (`ls`) the files in my home directory.

Learning how to use the terminal is not needed for running Manjaro. It's highly recommended, however; check out sites like <http://linuxcommand.org/>!

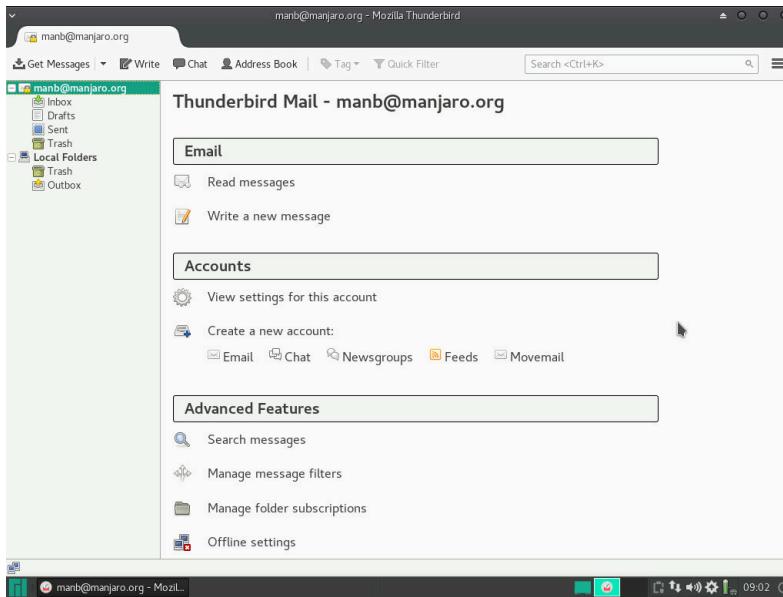
6: **File Manager** is a graphical interface for managing your documents and directories. Most file managers work in a similar way; if you've used another, you can use this one!

Web Browser



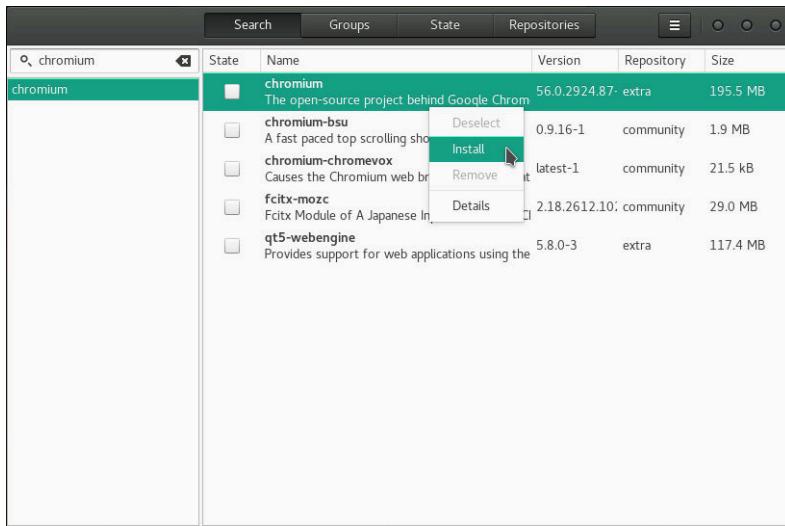
7: **Web Browser** allows you to visit and view web pages so you can read news stories, check the weather forecast, and all the rest. If you have a particular preference for a browser that is not installed by default, you can easily add another one as shown in section **Installing new software**.

Mail Reader



8: **Mail Reader** allows you to read and send email. You will have to add your email account when you first run the application (in a similar way to all mail readers) but once that is set up you should be good to go! As with the web browser, there are a range of choices for mail reader. For example, if you prefer Claws, Sylpheed or Evolution you can install it!

Add/Remove Software



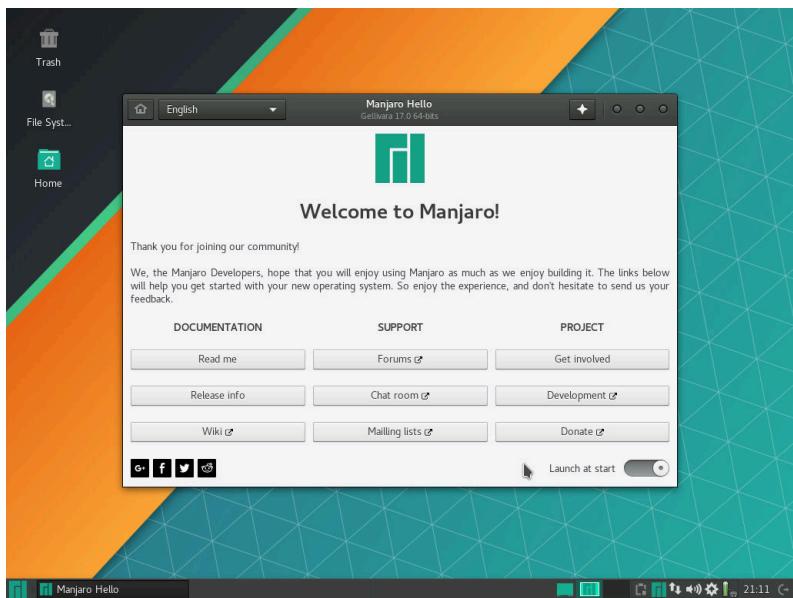
9: The **Package Manager** allows you to search for, install, and remove software applications. In this example I have searched for the Chromium web browser, and am about to install it. Once I'm happy with my selections I can click on **Apply** to continue. There are two main software managers in Manjaro : **Pamac** (installed with the Xfce edition) and **Octopi** (installed with the KDE edition). Installation of new software is covered in details in section **Installing new software**.

Getting help

There are a variety of ways of getting help and support about Manjaro, as well as finding out more about the project. You can just browse, or register if you want to get involved!

Remember that Manjaro is run by its community. Without a community there would be no Manjaro!

Whichever method you use, we look forward to meeting you!



1: The Manjaro Hello screen has links to some excellent resources. It's well worth taking the time to have a look at each of them.

Discussion forum

<https://forum.manjaro.org/>

Manjaro - Mozilla Firefox

Manjaro Linux | Manjaro | https://forum.manjaro.org/ | Search | Sign Up | Log In | |

manjaro

Welcome to our new Manjaro Forum!
We are currently shifting all Manjaro instances to new servers. You can access the old forum with the following link: [Classic Forum](#)

The content and users **will** not be transferred. Please register a new user account (*If you have issues doing that, then please leave us a note. The confirmation mail doesn't exactly always get delivered, as a result of being blacklisted by some companies due to bad actors on the same IP block.*) Useful tutorials, howtos and tips will be merged with our wiki content. Further information will follow soon. A few tips for the new forum:

- To test out how the new forum works without worrying about making mistakes, go to <http://try.discourse.org/>
- Please use the **Like** (♥) function instead of posting only "Thanks!" or "+1".
- When posting about an update please link to the announcement thread rather than referring to the "latest update".
- Read the new topic template text to check you've included enough detail.
- If you feel like helping us out with some coins, you can also [donate](#) to this project.

Let us know if you experience any problems with this new forum in [#site-feedback](#). Hope you like it! 😊

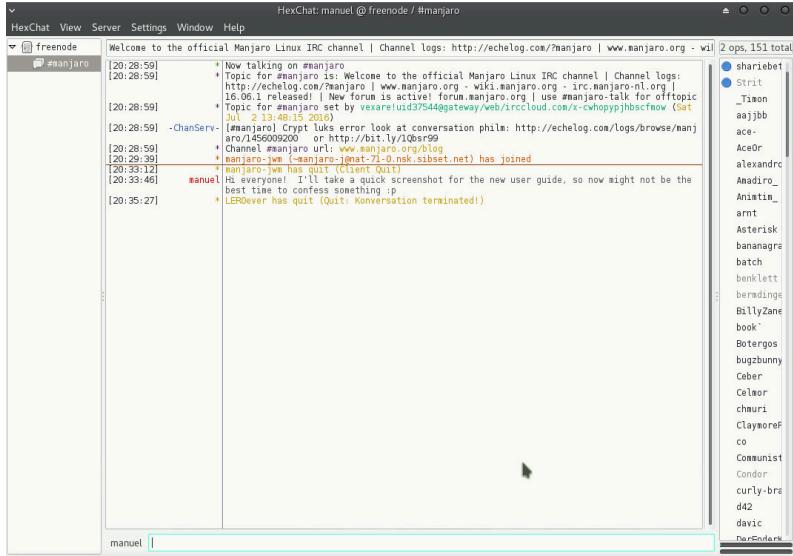
all categories | Categories | Latest | Top

Category	Topics
Announcements	16 / week
Get the latest news about package updates and what is important about Manjaro	
Stable Updates	
Testing Updates	
Unstable Updates	
General Discussion	31 / week
Topics that don't need a category, or don't fit into any other existing category.	

2: The Manjaro discussion forum is a great place to find out more about the project. You can connect at any time, leave questions or replies, and come back to them later.

IRC channels

<https://manjaro.org/irc-channel/>



German, French and Russian IRC channels are also available, respectively at #manjaro-de, #manjaro-fr and #manjaro-ru.

3: Join #manjaro on irc.freenode.net, whether via a web or desktop client, and you'll find a very nice bunch of people ready to chat! To talk on the IRC channel you will have to connect first. Hexchat, which enables you to do so, comes installed in the Xfce edition.

Mailing list

<https://lists.manjaro.org/listinfo/manjaro-general>

lists.manjaro.org Mailing Lists

Welcome!

Below is a listing of all the public mailing lists on lists.manjaro.org. Click on a list name to get more information about the list, or to subscribe, unsubscribe, and change the preferences on your subscription. To visit the general information page for an unadvertised list, open a URL similar to this one, but with a '/' and the list name appended.

List administrators, you can visit [the list admin overview page](#) to find the management interface for your list.

If you are having trouble using the lists, please contact mailman@manjaro.org.

List	Description
manjaro-dev	Manjaro development mailing list
manjaro-general	Manjaro general discussion
manjaro-mirrors	Manjaro package mirror announcements
manjaro-packages	Manjaro packages
manjaro-security	Discussion about security issues in Manjaro Linux and its packages
manjaro-testing	Manjaro testing discussion

Delivered by Mailman
version 2.1.14

Python Powered

GNU's Not Unix

Debian Powered

4: If you prefer to use email there are several mailing lists that you can use to stay up-to-date with announcements and development, as well as ask questions. At the moment, though, most people use either the forums or IRC. Maybe it will be you who gets people using the mailing lists!

Wiki

<https://wiki.manjaro.org/>

Main Page

Welcome to the Manjaro Wiki!

If you land on this page by trying to access <http://manjaro.org> please follow this [guide](#) or [click here](#).

Contents: English - Čeština - Deutsch - Français - Türkçe - Español - Polski - Português - Magyar - Bahasa Indonesia - Русский - O'zbek - Български - 日本語 - 한국어 - Italiano - Svenska

What's New - The Latest Changes

Category	Item	Date
NEW	Vivaldi - a browser from the Opera people	13-Feb-17
How-to verify GPG key of official .ISO images	2-Feb-17	
Firefox & Pale Moon Customisation	UPDATE: 2-Dec-16	
Allservers.sh Script	UPDATE: 27-Nov-16	
Important hidden .dot files in your home partition	UPDATE: 27-Nov-16	

Contents [hide]

- 1 What's New - The Latest Changes
- 2 Contents page
- 3 Getting Started
 - 3.1 Overview
 - 3.2 On-Line and Support
 - 3.3 Get Manjaro
 - 3.4 Installation
- 4 Customisation and Configuration
 - 4.1 Boot / Startup
 - 4.2 DEs, DMs, & WMs
 - 4.3 Manjaro Settings Manager
 - 4.4 Software Management
 - 4.5 Network / Internet

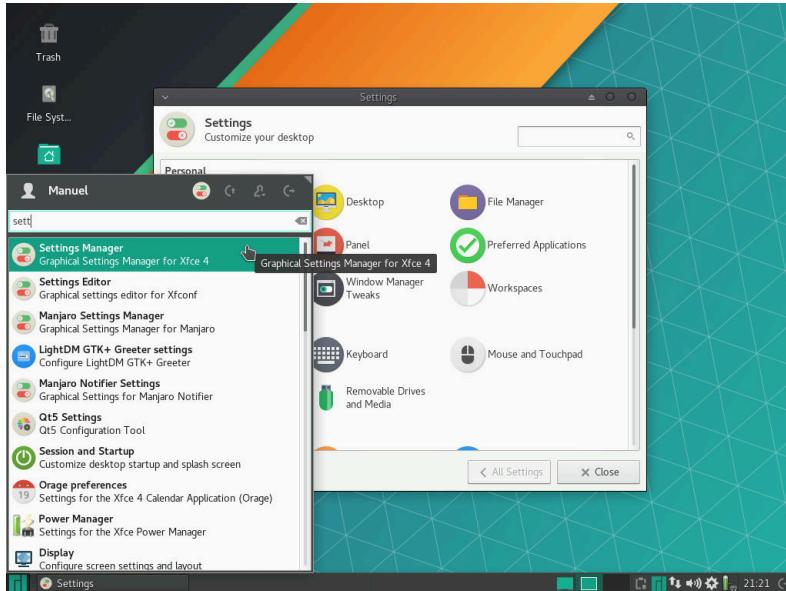
5: The wiki is essentially an on-line user manual. It has a huge range of information, hints, tips, and instructions on getting the most out of your Manjaro system. If you need to know how to do something, chances are it's on the wiki!

Maintaining your system

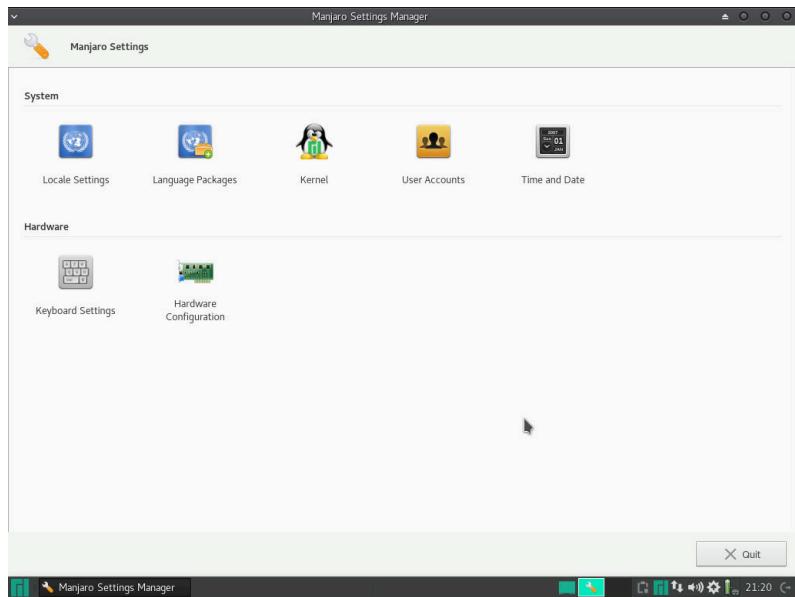
Changing settings

While the Manjaro desktop comes with a set of defaults that should work well for most people, you might want to change things like the desktop wallpaper and colour scheme, or perhaps how your laptop touchpad behaves.

Xfce settings manager



1: The Xfce desktop is highly customizable. The settings for your user account can be accessed both via the applications menu and the Xfce settings manager. Either way, there's a lot of tweaking you can do! Don't worry: the changes will only affect your user account, not any others you might have added.

Manjaro Settings Manager

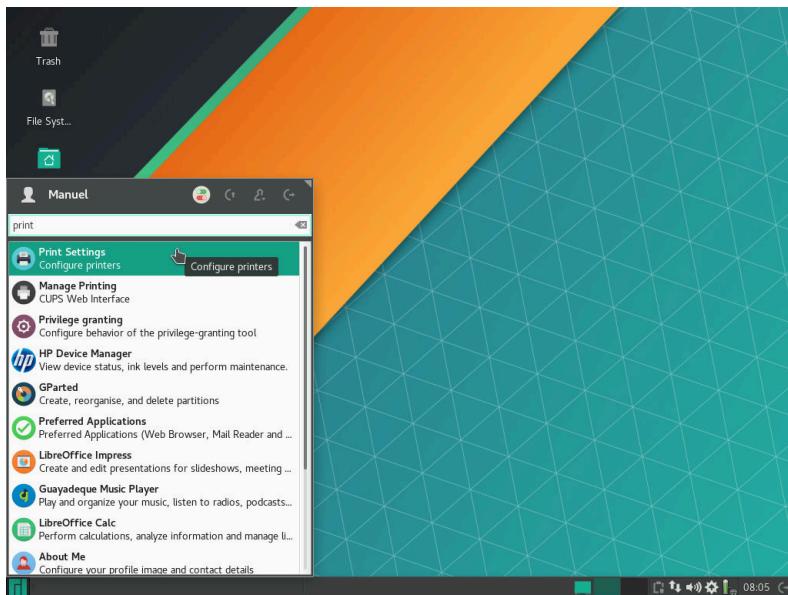
2: The **Manjaro Settings Manager** provides a set of tools for changing lower-level settings, such as those you set during installation. System-wide languages, keyboard layouts, users, and hardware drivers are all taken care of from here. It is available under **Settings** in the applications menu.

Adding a printer

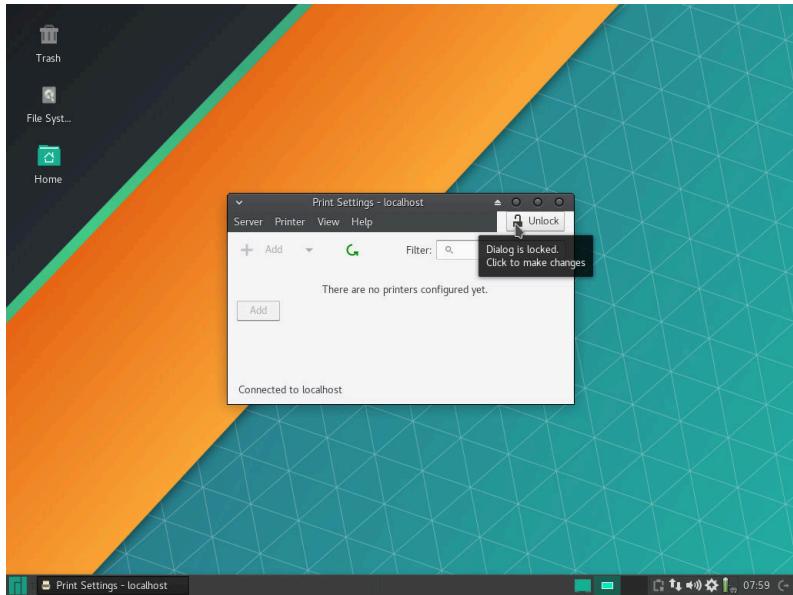
Manjaro comes with excellent printing support. Most printers are detected automatically, and many others can be configured very easily!

Depending on which edition you are using, you may have to install printing support. In that case, install the “manjaro-printer” package from Pamac or Octopi (see next section), or from the command line:

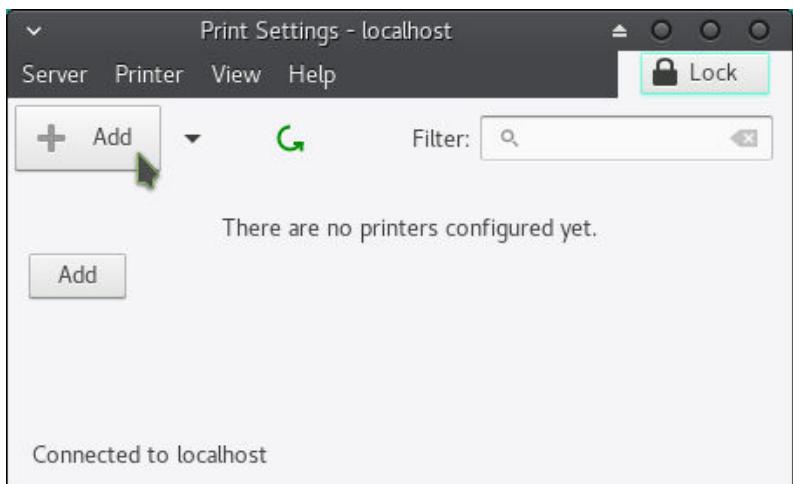
```
sudo pacman -S manjaro-printer
```



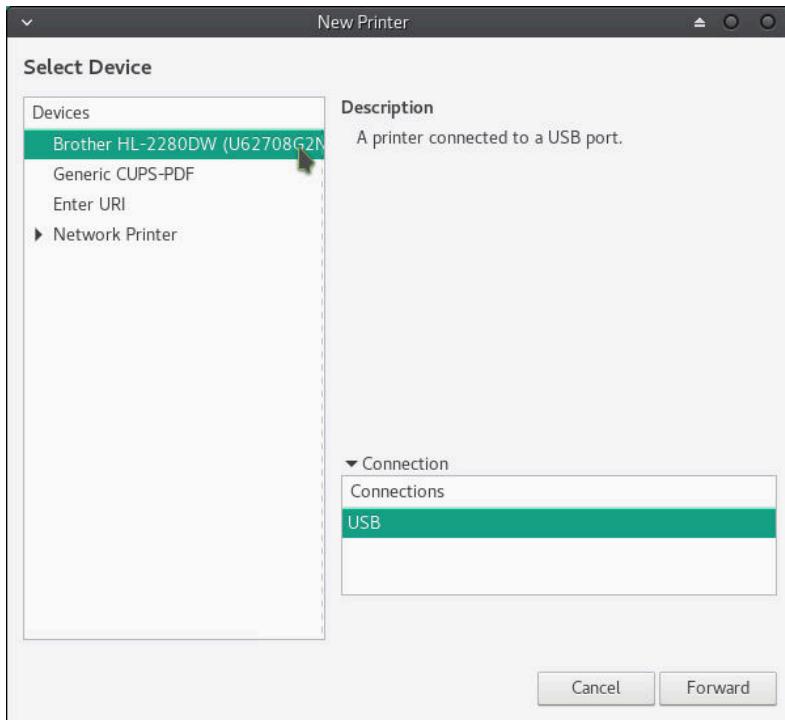
- 1: To check on the available printers, once the package has been installed, find and open **Print Settings** in the applications menu.



2: Adding a printer to the list requires administrator rights. Click on the Unlock button at the top-right of the window. You will be prompted for the administrator password.

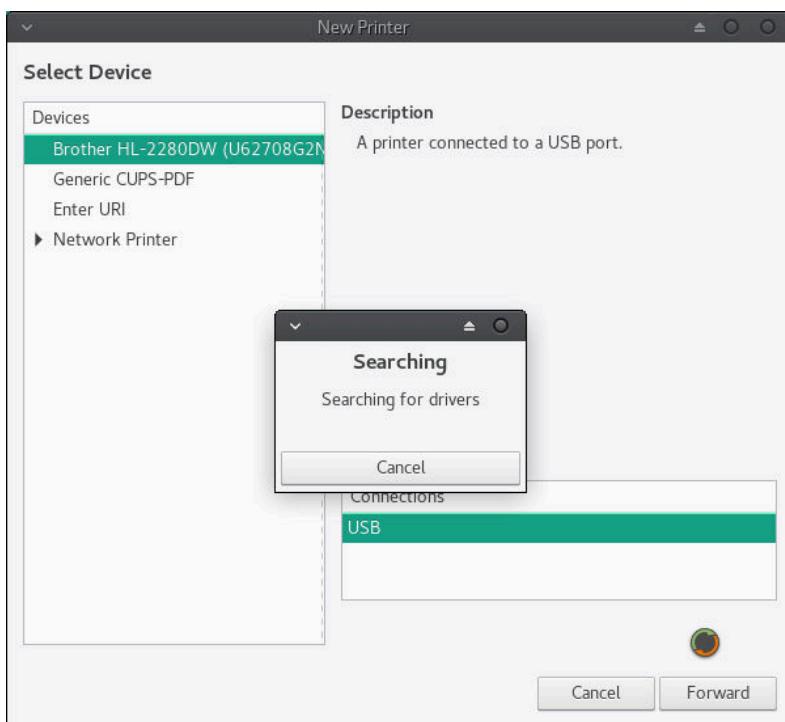


3: Then, click **Add** to begin configuring a printer.

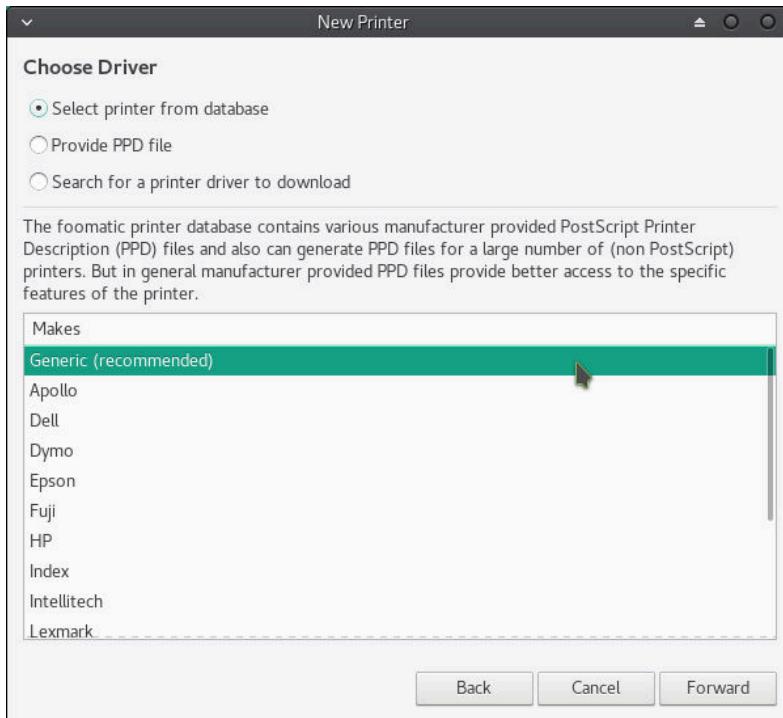


4: All detected printers will show in the devices list. Select your printer, then click **Forward**.

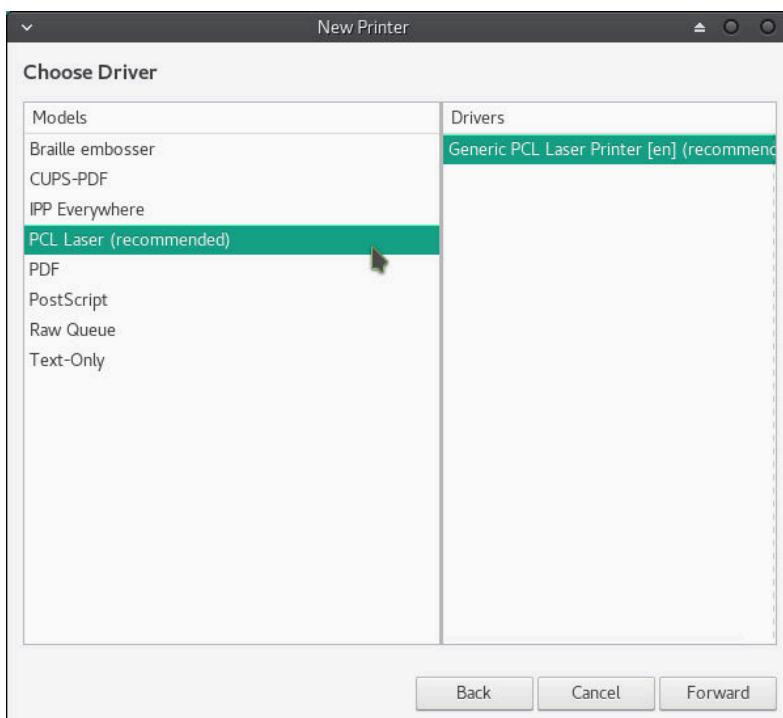
If your printer does not show up it's possible that your printer isn't compatible with Manjaro. Due to the vast number of printers out there you may need to install drivers manually - please visit the forum or IRC channel for help!



5: Manjaro will then search for drivers that may be compatible with your printer.



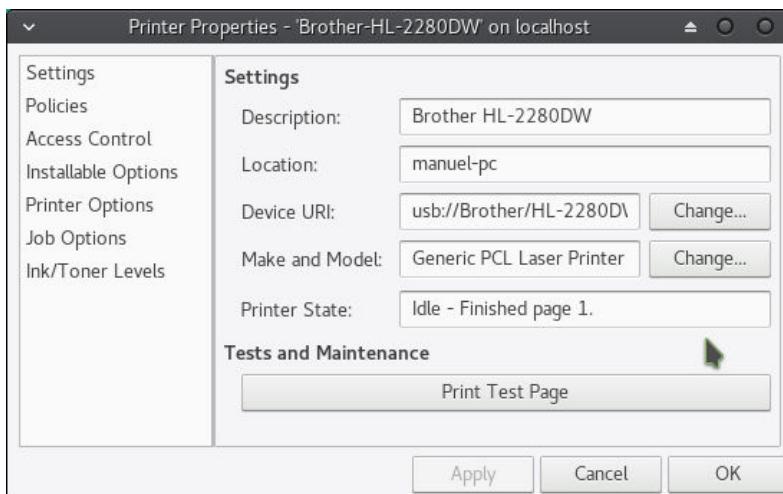
6: If no specific driver is found, do not despair! You will be given the opportunity to select one from a list. If your printer's manufacturer is not listed, you can choose the **Generic** driver. This is the one I chose here. You also have the option to choose a driver from a file or search once again based on your printer model. Once you have made your choice, click **Forward**.



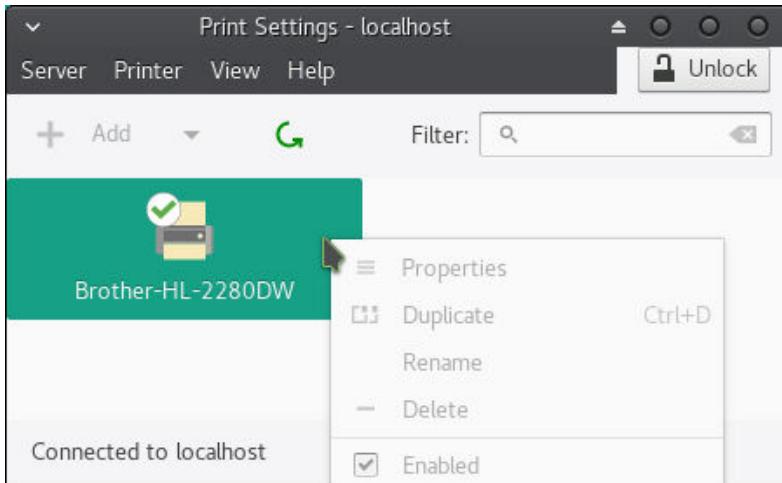
7: You will then have the choice to choose from a driver subcategory to refine your choice.



8: As Manjaro installs your printer you can change some settings like its name and location. These provide an easy way of identifying the printer.



9: You will then be asked if you want to print a test page before being redirected to the properties of your printer. The configuration is done! You can click the **OK** button to close the window.

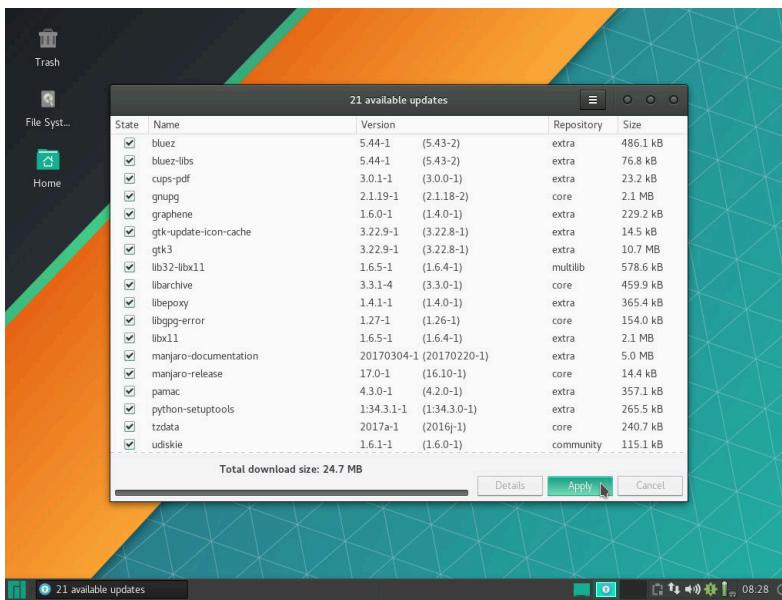


10: Your printer should now show in **Printer Settings**, where you can view the print queue and change the printer settings. To change the settings, you will once again need to click the **Unlock** button at the top-right of the window. Happy printing!

Updating software

After logging in you may notice a couple of pop-ups informing you of software updates. This is great! It means your internet connection is working correctly, and that there is new software ready and waiting for you!

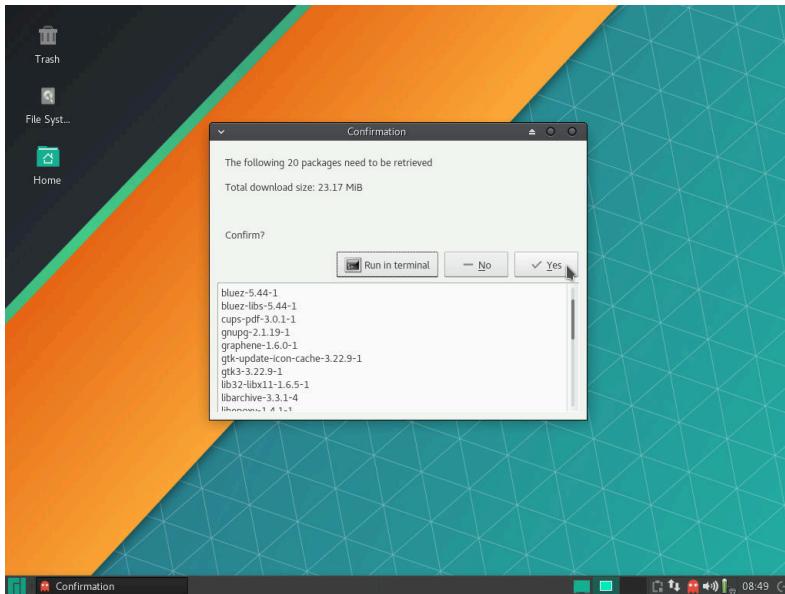
Pamac



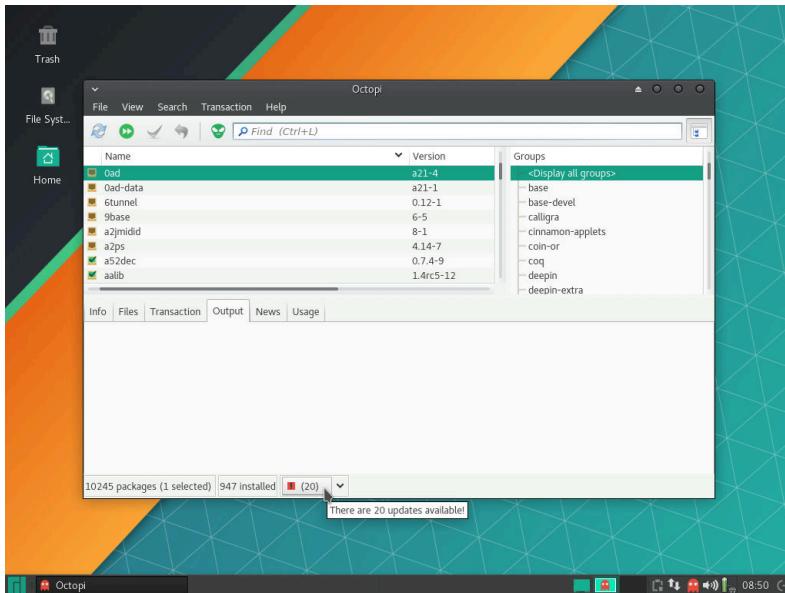
1: Pamac's Update Manager is available from the system tray at the bottom right corner of the screen. In this screenshot it has an icon with an exclamation mark, indicating there are software updates. An update check is performed automatically; all you have to do is click **Apply** and enter your password when prompted and any updates will proceed automatically!

Octopi

Octopi is an alternative software manager for Manjaro. It is installed with the Openbox and KDE editions as it is based on the Qt toolset. It also has a very funky icon!



2: Octopi's update notifier is available from the system tray at the bottom right corner of the screen. In this screenshot it has a red icon, indicating there are software updates. An update check is performed automatically; all you have to do is click **Yes** and any updates will proceed automatically!

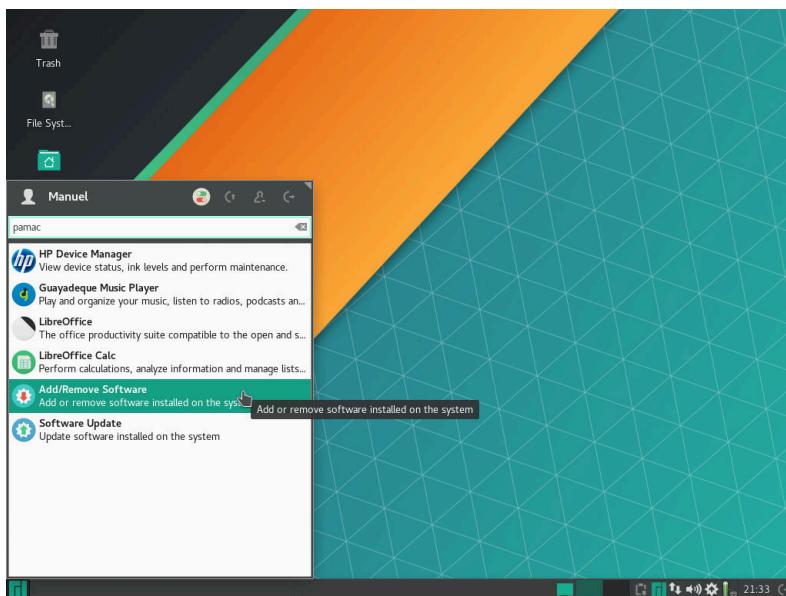


3: Alternatively, you can load Octopi's full interface. The number at the bottom shows how many updates there are. To show what is available, click on the button with the red icon and the number of updates. To install the updates, click on the arrow next to the button and then click on **Install**.

Installing new software

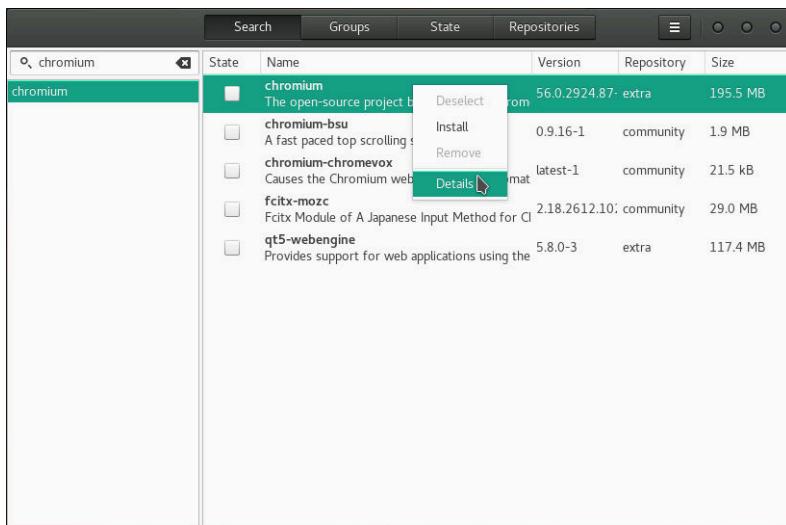
There's a huge amount of software freely available in the Manjaro repositories.¹¹ If you are connected to the internet you can download and install as many of this as you want at no cost! No advertising is embedded, no data gathering performed - you get just the software application, unlike with some other operating systems.

Pamac

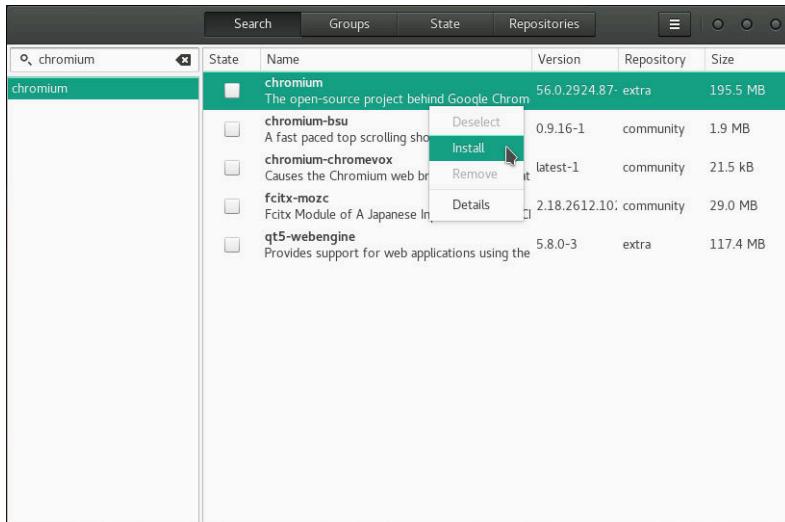


¹¹ Be careful before enabling the AUR. It is a community-maintained repository of software so presents potential risks and problems. Make sure you are familiar with the build process.

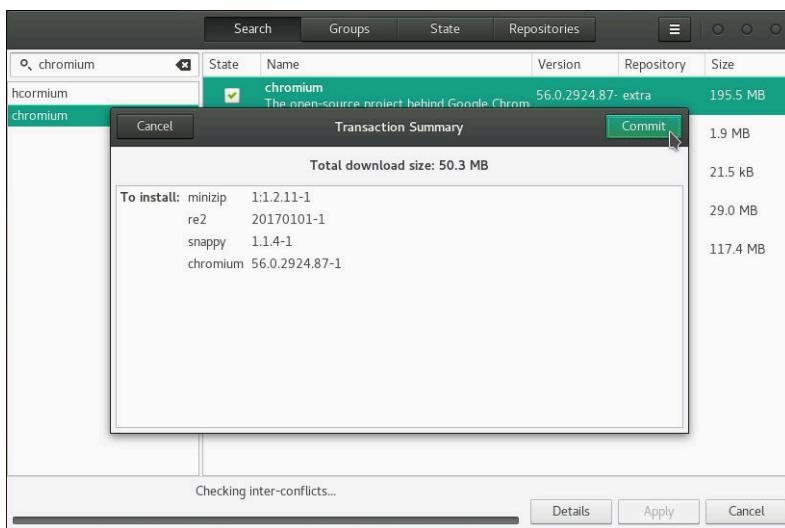
1: Pamac is a piece of software that allows you to install software on your computer. You can find it under the name **Add/Remove Software** in the application menu.



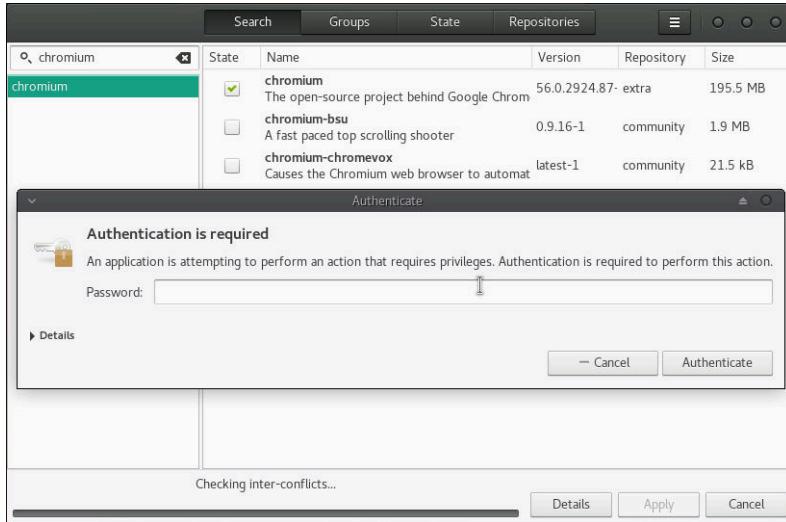
2: Pamac allows easy access to the available software. All software applications in the repositories are free; no need to worry about purchase or licensing costs. To obtain more information on a package, right-click on it and select **Details**. This will give you a description of the package, a link to the official website of the package, a list of dependencies and much more.



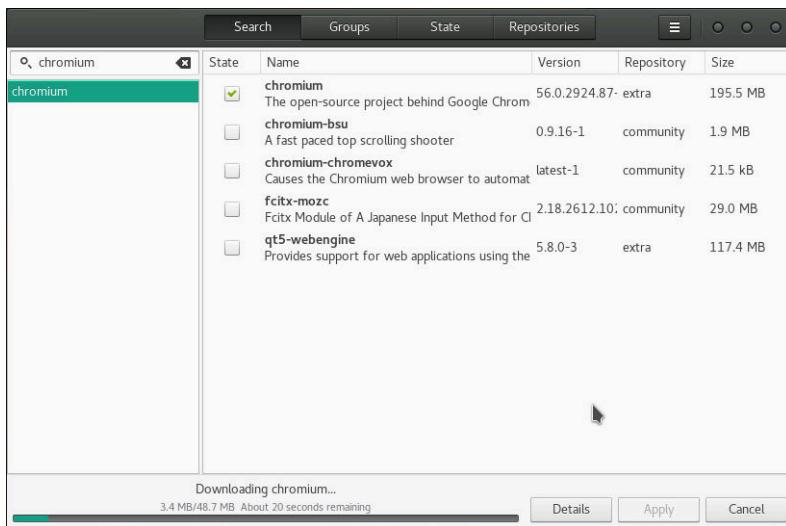
3: Once you've found the package you want to install, right-click and select **Install**, then click on the **Apply** button that will appear at the bottom of the window to confirm.



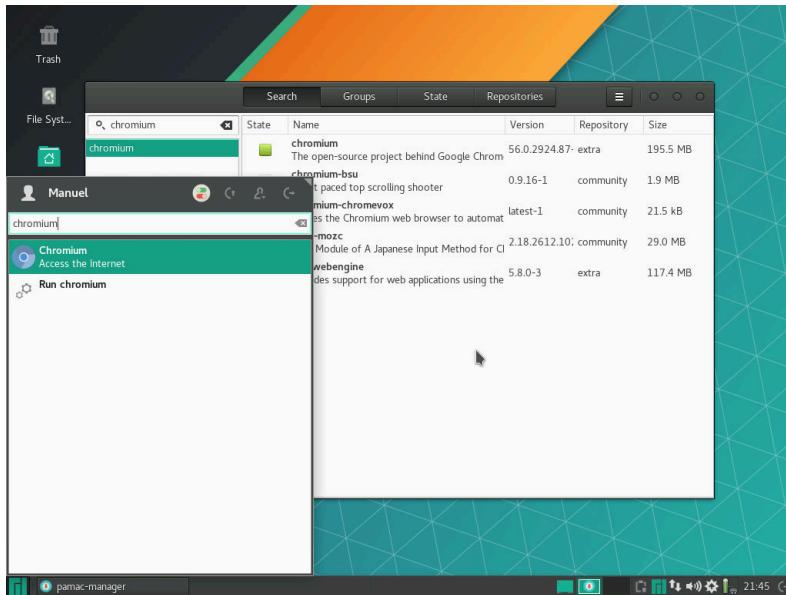
4: The packages to be installed are listed so you can check if this is what you want to do. If additional packages are needed by the one or those you want to install, they will also be listed here. They are called dependencies. When you are happy with the selection, click **Commit** and the software will be downloaded and installed.



5: To stop other users from removing important software from the system you will have to provide an administrator password. If you kept the default settings when creating a user during the installation, your own password will work. If you don't know it, you can't go any further. There are methods to reset this password if needed; visit the forum or IRC channel to find out more. Enter your password and click **Authenticate**.



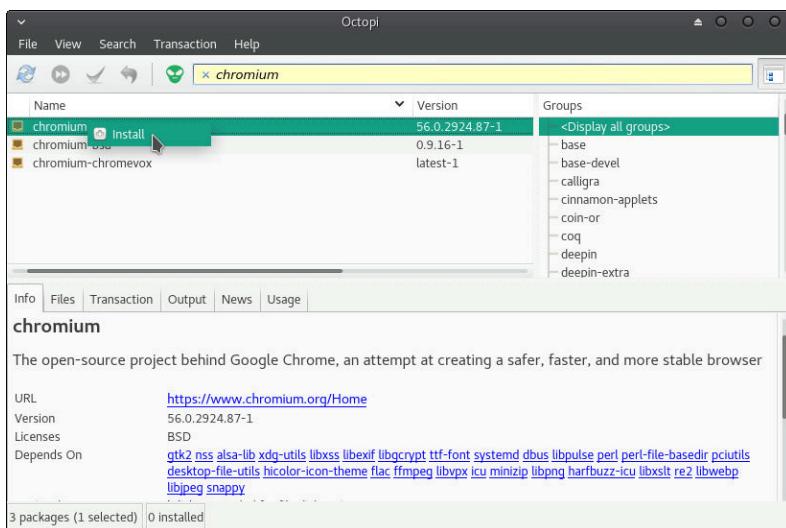
6: The software packages will be downloaded and installed. You don't have to do anything else!



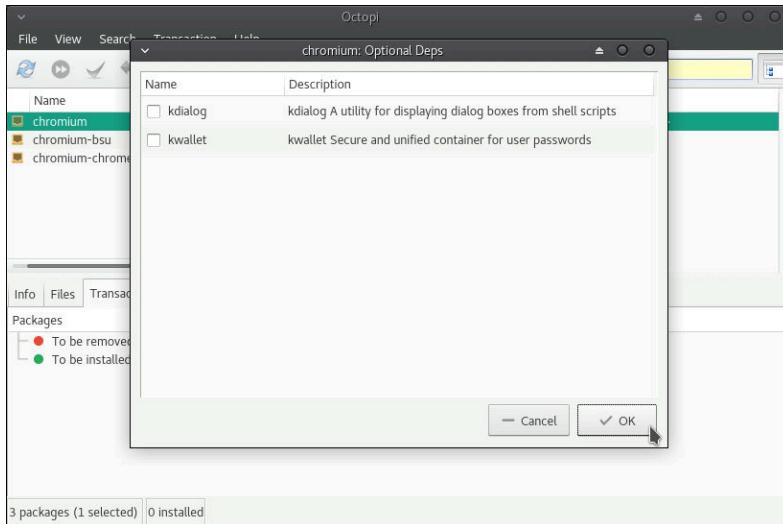
7: The new software will show as installed within Pamac and is available in the application menu ready for you to use. You can close Pamac now if you want.

Octopi

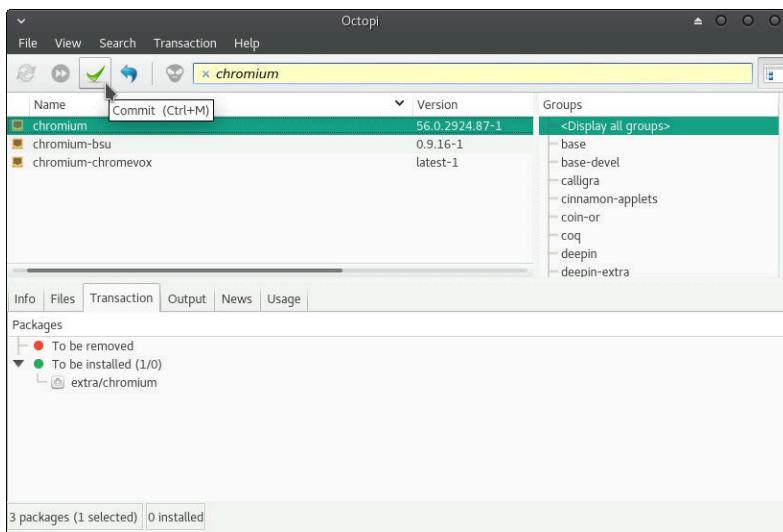
The process of installing new software using Octopi is very similar to the one using Pamac.



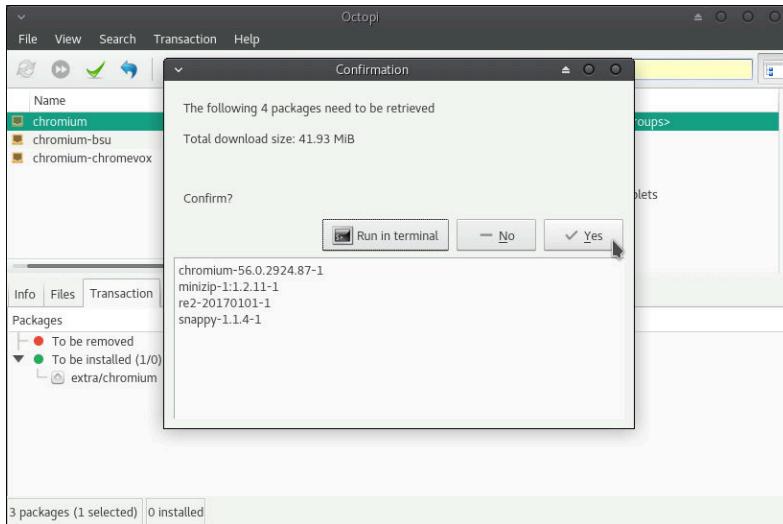
8: Octopi allows easy access to the available software. Do note that the search process is slightly different to Pamac as you can select whether to search by package name or package description. Once you've found the package you want to install, right-click and select **Install**.



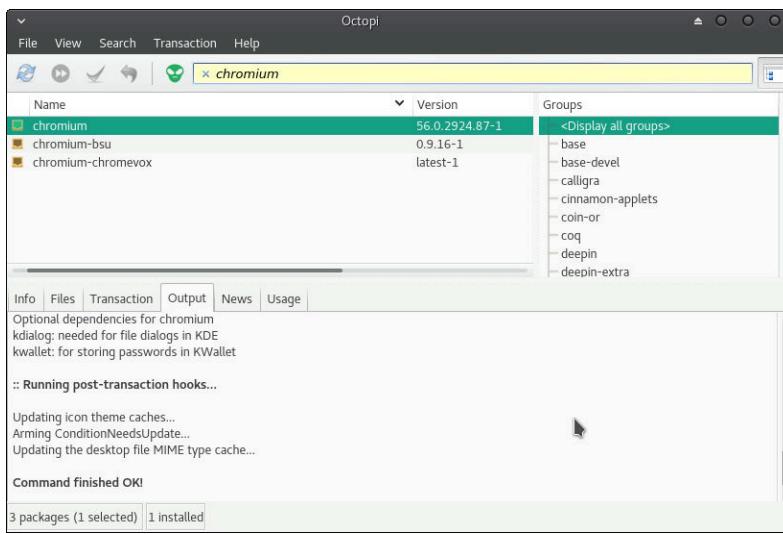
9: Some software will have other packages it can optionally use if they are installed. These “optional dependencies” can be selected here or ignored - you can always install them later if you want to!



10: A summary of the transactions is displayed at the bottom of the window. Once you are ready to apply them, click on the checkmark at the top-left of the window to **Commit** them.



11: The packages to be installed are listed so you can check if this is what you want to do. When you are happy with the selection, click **Yes**, type in the root (administrator) password when prompted and the software will be downloaded and installed.



12: Octopi will show a confirmation that it installed the new software. You can close Octopi now if you want. The new software is now ready to use!

Using Pacman

Pacman is the Arch Linux package manager. This underpins Pamac and Octopi but doesn't have a graphical interface. Instead, it is used by typing commands on the terminal. The commands allow you to install, upgrade, configure, and remove software.

Synchronising with the Manjaro repositories

As new packages are added to the repositories you will need to regularly synchronise the package lists. This is normally taken care of automatically on a regular basis by the software managers, but to perform this manually type the following into the terminal:

```
sudo pacman -Sy
```

This will only download the package lists if there has been a change. Occasionally you may want to force the package lists to be downloaded. To do this, type:

```
sudo pacman -Syy
```

Updating software

Pacman will allow you to perform an update of software already installed with the command:

```
sudo pacman -S
```

It's a good idea to check whether the package lists are up-to-date at the same time. To do so, type:

```
sudo pacman -Syu
```

You can also force a package list synchronisation before performing an update with:

```
sudo pacman -Syyu
```

Searching for software

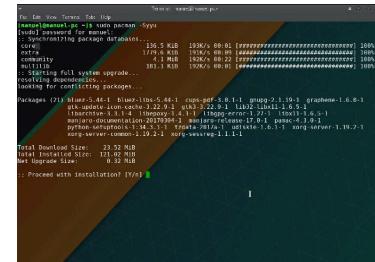
Finding a package by name is really straightforward. For example, to search for a text editor called Leafpad, type:

```
sudo pacman -Ss leafpad
```

Installing software

Installing a package is equally straightforward. For example, to install Leafpad, type:

```
sudo pacman -S leafpad
```



1: sudo pacman -Syyu

Many software applications depend on other software packages. Thankfully, Pacman will automatically detect and install these!

Removing software

To remove a software package you need to know its name, but the command is straightforward. To remove Leafpad, type:

```
sudo pacman -R leafpad
```

It's also possible to remove a package and any dependencies it required when it was installed. Assuming those other packages are not being used by another piece of software, they will become **orphan** packages. These serve no function other than taking up space! To remove a software package with its dependencies, type:

```
sudo pacman -Rs leafpad
```

A package may also create configuration files. Normally these are left in place so your configuration is not lost, and can be reused if you install the package again. However, if you want to remove these configuration files too, the command is:

```
sudo pacman -Rns leafpad
```

If at a later date you want to remove all orphan packages and configuration files for packages that you removed some time ago, the following command will do it:

```
sudo pacman -Rns $(pacman -Qtdq)
```

Be warned, though: this is an advanced command!

Other Pacman commands

It's a good idea to become familiar with the Pacman commands. It can be a very useful tool in case the other software managers refuse to complete an installation, for example if an installation process is interrupted. The Pacman manpage is very informational and can be viewed with the command:

```
man pacman
```

To exit, press **q**.

man is short for **manual**

Updating the mirror list

Manjaro Linux packages are hosted on a number of servers across the world; these servers **mirror** the official Manjaro software repository. When you first install Manjaro it will try to work out which server is closest to you so that software downloads complete as quickly as possible.

Sometimes, though, the list of mirrors can get old. New mirrors can become available, and some mirrors are removed. Updates to

Manjaro will regularly trigger an update of the mirror list, but sometimes it's useful to do this manually.

To update the mirror list use the following command:

```
sudo pacman-mirrors -g
```

This will test the speed of all currently available mirrors and set your machine to use the best for you. Once this command has completed, you should force a download of the package lists with the command:

```
sudo pacman -Syyu
```

Choosing mirrors

If you would like more control over which mirrors to use, run the command:

```
sudo pacman-mirrors -i
```

This will allow you to select which mirror, or mirrors, to try when checking for software updates and downloading new packages. It's normally best to choose mirrors that are geographically close to you, so if you're in Canada then servers from Canada and the US are generally a good bet. Of course, you're free to choose whichever you want!

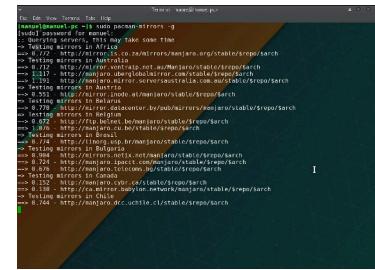
To reset back to an automatic choice, run this command:

```
sudo pacman-mirrors -g -c all
```

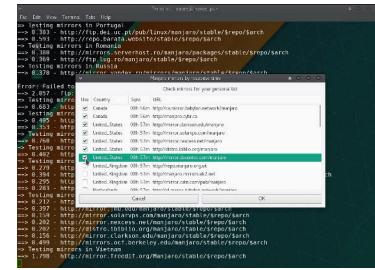
Remember to force a download of the package lists to use the new mirrors!

Updating mirrors from Pamac

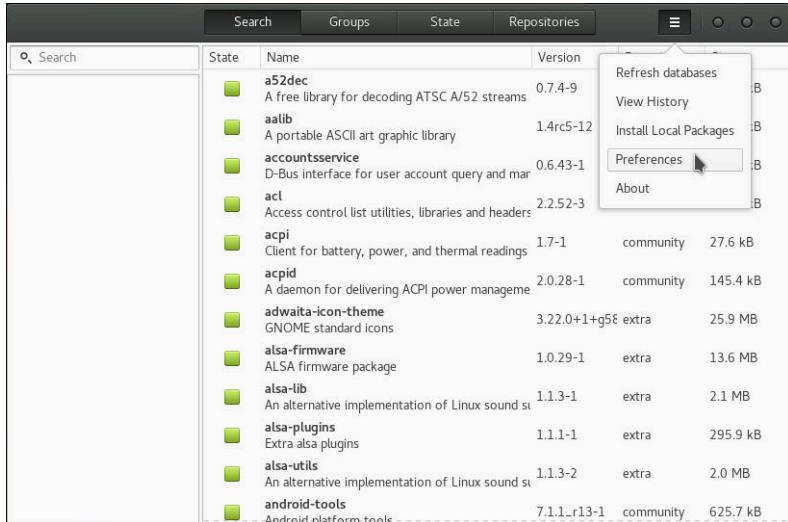
Mirrors can also be refreshed from within Pamac. There you can select the country from which to choose the mirrors. Choosing your country or one close to yours is generally a good idea.



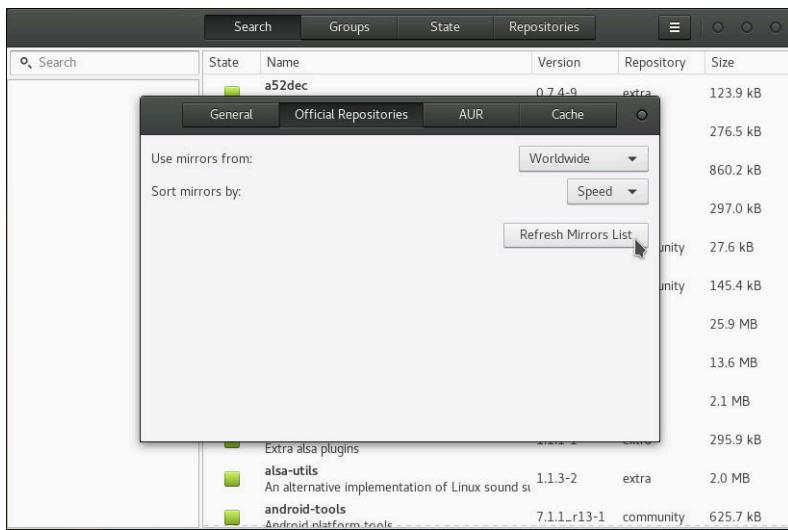
```
2: sudo pacman-mirrors -g
```



```
3: sudo pacman-mirrors -i
```



4: From Pamac, click the pancake menu at the top right of the window and select **Preferences**. You will be prompted for your password.



5: In the window that pops up, go to the **Official Repositories** tab. There, you will be able to choose the location of the mirrors and refresh them.

Switching branches

When you install Manjaro, unless you specifically installed a preview version, you will be using the stable branch. This set of packages has the most testing and so is the best for most users. However, you may want to help test packages before they move to the stable repository. To do this, you can switch to the testing branch with the command:

```
sudo pacman-mirrors -g -b testing
```

The testing repository has packages that have been checked by the Manjaro development team to make sure they work correctly. However, the amount of testing done is much smaller than for the stable branch - but this is how they get tested!

If you want to live on the bleeding edge, you can switch to the unstable branch. This is normally used by the Manjaro developers. Packages from the unstable branch can cause problems, so this is not something to do lightly. If you ever decide to try it out, the command is:

```
sudo pacman-mirrors -g -b unstable
```

After switching branches you will need to force an update of the package lists and packages, which can be done with the command:

```
sudo pacman -Syyu
```

If you switch away from the stable branch, but want to move back, it's actually pretty easy. You can switch back to the stable branch in the same way you left it, with the command:

```
sudo pacman-mirrors -g -b stable
```

This will leave the newer packages on your system and these will be replaced as the stable branch catches up. However, if you want to force a downgrade of packages back to the stable version, use:

```
sudo pacman -Syyuu
```

Fixing installation errors

Occasionally, an installation can go wrong. The downloaded file might be corrupted, or the process might be interrupted if you lose power. Most of the time it's relatively easy to get your system back to a working state!

The most common error you will be something like:

```
:: Synchronising package databases...
error: failed to update core (unable to lock database)
error: failed to update extra (unable to lock database)
```

```

error: failed to update community (unable to lock database)
error: failed to update multilib (unable to lock database)
error: failed to synchronise any databases
error: failed to init transaction (unable to lock database)
error: could not lock database: File exists
    if you're sure a package manager is not already running,
    you can remove /var/lib/pacman/db.lck

```

This means Pacman thinks it is already running. If it is, and you try to force an installation or removal of software, the package database can be left in an inconsistent state. This would be bad. So, the first thing to check is whether an installer is running. One of the easiest ways to check is to run a terminal command:

```
ps x | grep pacman
```

This might look complicated, but it's just two small commands joined (piped) together. First,

```
ps x
```

produces a list of running processes for all users. Second,

```
grep pacman
```

searches for the text "pacman". The pipe, |, takes the output from the first and feeds it to the second. To check whether another program is running you can just change the text "pacman" to something else:

```
ps x | grep pamac
ps x | grep octopi
```

Once you are sure an installer is not running, you can delete Pacman's lock file with the command:

```
sudo rm /var/lib/pacman/db.lck
```

Then try running the install process again!

If a problem persists, there is a series of commands that will fix most issues:

```
sudo rm -f /var/lib/pacman/db.lck
sudo pacman-mirrors -g
sudo pacman -Syyuu
sudo pacman -Suu
```

In order, these commands:

- Remove Pacman's lock file;
- Update the mirror list;
- Forces an update of the package lists and an update of any packages to bring them in line with the current repository state;
- Ensures no packages are left out of line with the current repository state.

More information

Remember - there is plenty of information on the wiki <https://wiki.manjaro.org/> and discussion forum <https://forum.manjaro.org/>. Do not hesitate to use them!

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